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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—M. Monsabre, the Dominican orator, having in his Lent lectures at Nôtre Dame defended Papal infallibility and the Inquisition, M. H. Loyson challenged him to a public discussion on those points, asserting that he himself when occupying the same pulpit preached a very different Catholicism, and that M. Monsabre's doctrines would not have been tolerated by any previous Archbishops of Paris or by monarchical Governments. Such doctrines, he added, could only serve to stimulate the formidable growth of impiety which had already caused France to suffer so much, and now threatened yet greater evils. M. Monsabre replied that if his antagonist could guarantee an audience of the respectful and pacific tone adopted in the proposition, his superiors would, perhaps, allow him to accept the challenge. M. Loyson must, however, foresee (remarks the *Times* Paris correspondent) that the majority of any audience would be animated by passions which would make the discussion degenerate into a scandal unprofitable to truth. A friendly conversation would be better, and it would be a great consolation to him if his prayers could secure M. Loyson's return to the convictions which had illumined his youth, but, even if his replies to objections failed to convince M. Loyson, they might be strong enough to make him feel respect for the Faith. M. Loyson rejoined by dismissing as chimerical the fear of uproar, and by promising his utmost to insure a proper audience. He remonstrated against M. Monsabre's words, "You no longer believe;" and also against his having signed himself, "Your compassionating brother in our Lord;" which expressions he regarded as personalities customary with several Ultramontane controversialists. While he had never believed in Papal Infallibility, or in the blessings of the Inquisition, which were not dogmas when he preached at Nôtre Dame, he asserted his belief in the divinity of Christ, the inspiration of the canonical books, and the authority of traditions derived from the Apostles. He did not accuse M. Monsabre of no longer believing, but only of unconsciously mingling foreign doctrines with the Christian and Catholic Faith. M. Monsabre in a second letter said:—

Be satisfied with your own meeting-place, where you have already, as I know, refuted my doctrines; summon those whom you desire to convince, and cease to incite me to a public discussion, which I still think would be of no profit to truth. I am still at your disposal for the explanations you may like to ask me for without scandal. I had no intention of offending you in what I wrote, and beg you to forget what you considered arrogant in my former letter. God bless you.

M. Loyson, in closing the correspondence, insists that if any scandal exists it affects the controversialist who evades the obligation of justifying his faith and teaching in circumstances in which they can be seriously and usefully tested. He promises to read the correspondence on Sunday in what M. Monsabre styles his meeting-place, and will leave the public, of whom he himself has less distrust than his adversary, to judge of the singular defence of the doctrines of a past, in which the opponents now refused a discussion were imprisoned and burned. He disclaimed having been offended, inasmuch as he had attributed to unconscious habit whatever the two letters contained inconsistent with the tone of ordinary intercourse between well-bred people.

A correspondent of the *Débats* gives some particulars of the Queen's sojourn at Mentone. Her Majesty has visited all the picturesque spots in the neighbourhood. "She has wandered on foot through the quaint streets of the old town and several times entered the potteries of the establishment where vases and fancy articles are manufactured out of a special clay. By a shaded path the Queen could walk from the Châlet des Rosiers to the Hôtel Bellevue, where Prince Leopold is living; and thither, while the Prince was laid up for a few days with a slight ailment, she several times a day bent her steps. The French detective service has kept perpetual watch round the Châlet during the Queen's stay, and every evening the Minister of the Interior has been informed by telegraph of the events of the day. Nothing, however, of importance has occurred."

The collecting of used postage-stamps is a mystery which the *Univers* professes to explain. It states that the indigo used in printing them being rather expensive, the Post Office itself buys back the old stamps and skilled chemists are employed to extract the indigo, so that it may be again employed in making new stamps.

ITALY.—Immense numbers of strangers flocked to Rome for Holy Week. Nothing will persuade them that the great celebrations no longer take place at the Sistine Chapel and in St. Peter's. All the great basilicas were resorted to by crowds of people. At the Lateran the best music is now rendered. There was a beautiful *Miserere* sung on Wednesday afternoon. On Maundy Thursday all Rome flocked to St. Peter's, to find only veiled pictures, extinguished lights, dry holy-water fonts, and the bare high altar, which had been washed with wine and water in the morning. Only at the Chapel of the Madonna della Colonna was there a representation of the brilliantly lighted sepulchre; but the voices from the choir chapel sounded feebly through the noise of the fashionable promenade along the nave and aisles.

The corner-stone of the new English Church in the Via Bambino, dedicated to All Saints, which is to take the place of that outside the Porta del Popolo, in which the English congregation has met since 1818, was laid on Saturday afternoon by his Excellency Sir Augustus Paget. At half-past three the Archdeacon of Northumberland, Canons Lonsdale and Wickenden, the Revs. H. W. Wasse and W. Pickance, British chaplain and assistant-chaplain, the Rev. Dr. Newin, American chaplain of St. Paul's in the Via Nazionale, and a large number of other Church of England clergymen in their surplices, Her Majesty's Ambassador, with his Secretaries of Embassy and attachés; Mr. Wurts, Secretary of Legation, representing the Hon. George Marsh, United States Minister, and the members of the Church Committee passed processionally along the line of the intended nave, which was strewn with box-leaves. As they approached the stone, which was covered with flowers, the choir sang the 100th Psalm, the service being taken chiefly from that in use in the diocese of Salisbury, with the addition of a brief exhortation from the chaplain. After the singing of a second hymn the stone was lowered, and the Ambassador, striking it three times, said, "Thus, thus, and thus I lay the foundation stone of this church of All Saints, in the Name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; and may God prosper the undertaking." At the conclusion of the service the hymn "Christ is made the sure foundation," was sung. The area was crowded, not only with the members of the Church of England, both English and American, in Rome, but with many members of the Protestant denominations now established there, and numbers of Italians. From the hoarding were flying English, United States, and Italian flags, together with the red and orange flag of the city of Rome. The church was designed by the late Mr. Street. Upon the foundations—always a most costly affair in this city—£60,000 has been spent; the site cost about £6,000, and the Committee have £5,000 in hand. About £70,000 more is wanted to complete the building.

Cardinal M'Cabe will take possession to-morrow (Sunday) of the Church of St. Sabine, from which he derives his title. The British residents in Rome will present his Eminence with an address on the occasion.

The King of Würtemberg, attended by his suite in full uniform, went to the Vatican on Thursday morning to pay his homage to Pope Leo XIII. On alighting from the carriage, his Majesty was met by the Prefect of the Pontifical ceremonies. At the foot of the staircase the Pope's Maggiordomo, surrounded by all the dignitaries of the Pontifical Court, was in waiting to receive him. Military honours were rendered by the Swiss and other Guards, and, in short, the ceremonial required by the Vatican etiquette in the case of Sovereign Princes was fully observed. The Pope received the King at the door of his study, and after the audience, which lasted some time, the members of the suite were admitted and presented to his Holiness. Afterwards his Majesty, attended by the dignitaries of the Pontifical Court, went, according to custom, to visit Cardinal Jacobini, the Pontifical Secretary of State.

An important fragment of the celebrated plan of the city of Rome of the time of Septimus Severus, of which the pieces, found in the 16th century and subsequently, are preserved on the staircase walls of the Capitoline Museum, was discovered this week in the course of the excavations in progress between the Temple of Antoninus and Faustina and the corner of the Palatine. It shows a portion of the plan of the Temple of Castor and Pollux and other edifices which stood within a few yards of the spot where it was found, and it fits into and completes one of the fragments in the Capitoline Museum.

GERMANY.—In the Palace of the Crown Prince, Unter den Linden, took place last Wednesday at noon the confirmation of the Crown Prince's daughter, the Princess Victoria, born 12th April, 1866, and of Prince Frederick Leopold, only son of Prince Frederick Charles. The blinds of the windows had been drawn down, and the spacious hall was ablaze with wax candles. The Princess Victoria was attired in a robe of white silk, and wore her hair perfectly plain and entirely devoid of ornaments. Prince Frederick Leopold, who has just attained his seventeenth year, appeared in his uniform as Lieutenant of Foot Guards, and wore the Black Eagle. Dr. Kögel delivered the charge, after which the Prince and Princess read aloud their confession of faith, a document which, according to an old tradition of the House of Hohenzollern, had been drawn up by the candidates themselves.

It is announced that the Government "have allowed the Ecclesiastical Bill to drop for the moment." The *Germania* says that the Centre will refuse to accept any amendment made by the Upper House.

The German fleet will leave Wilhelmshaven about the 20th of May for a course of manœuvres off the North Sea and Baltic coasts, extending to the end of August. The Admiralty is paying great attention to the science of torpedo defence.

RUSSIA.—The rumours of the anti-Jewish riots in the South of Russia have, the *Daily Telegraph's* St. Petersburg correspondent says, unfortunately proved too true. The correspondent adds:—"The worst disturbances took place at Balta, on Wednesday last, but of these I have as yet no authentic details. The outbreak has not been confined to that town alone, but has extended throughout the district. I have so far only received particulars as to what occurred at the small town of Vageloutsioulov, which is twenty-five versts distant from Ananieff, on the Charkow Nicholaief Railway. On the Thursday, the morrow of the disturbances at Balta, the peasants attacked the Jews at Vageloutsioulov. Thirty shops were demolished and their contents plundered by the mob, and eighty private houses were broken into and ransacked. The Jews were treated with the usual violence, but no cases of murder are so far reported. It is said that forty of the rioters were arrested after order had been restored, and troops are being rapidly directed on the district from the neighbouring garrisons. There is only too much reason to anticipate that the event in the Ananieff district are but the commencement of the general outbreak which is anticipated in the South."

Intelligence from St. Petersburg states that Prince Woronzoff Daschkoff, Minister of the Imperial Household, has issued a private circular announcing that the coronation of the Emperor Alexander III. will take place in August next, and that by Imperial command all the dignitaries of the Empire are to attend the ceremony in Moscow. The festivities will last a fortnight, and are estimated to cost 10,000,000 roubles. The *fêtes* at the coronation of the late Czar lasted a month, and cost 18,000,000 roubles.

AUSTRIA.—The marriage of Prince Arnulf of Bavaria, nearly related to the King of Bavaria, with the Princess Theresa Lichtenstein, sister of the reigning Prince of Lichtenstein, took place on Wednesday in the Lichtenstein Palace. Some 600 notices had been sent to the different European Courts, and 150 invitations were issued. The ceremony took place before an altar which had been erected in the large marble hall of the Palace, one of the finest old palaces of Vienna, restored some 30 years ago. Their Majesties were present, and also the Crown Prince and Princess, and most of the Archdukes and Archduchesses; among them the Archduchess Gisella, who had come with her husband for the purpose. The father of the bridegroom and several of the family, the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland, the Duke and Duchess of Nassau, the Bavarian Minister, as representative of his King, the German Ambassador, and the members of the great Austrian families related to the bride were spectators and were received by the reigning Prince Lichtenstein. Landgraf Fürstenberg, the Cardinal Archbishop of Olmütz, performed the religious ceremony.

SERVIA.—The coronation of King Milan has been definitely fixed for August. His Majesty has already despatched aides-de-camp to the European Courts bearing invitations to the ceremony.

SWITZERLAND.—Five students of the University were on Saturday drowned in Lake Leman, their boat having been overturned by a gust of wind. Four out of six who were in the boat, being unable to swim, went down at once, one was washed from the bottom of the boat, to which he was clinging, and one was happily saved. Besides the five students mentioned above, three young men, students in the Normal College of Lausanne, were drowned at the upper end of the lake on the evening of the same day. They went out from Ouchy in a small boat early in the afternoon and called a few hours later at Lutry, where, as a strong north wind was blowing, they were warned to avoid the middle of the lake. Since that time they have not been seen; but, as their boat was washed ashore, bottom upwards, on Monday, there can be no question as to the fate which has befallen them.

SYRIA.—A Swiss gentleman, writing from Smyrna to the *Journal de Genève*, describes the condition of Syria as being more deplorable than ever. In the interior there is no security whatever either for life or property. The neighbourhood of Aidin is infested by three different bands of brigands, who, without let or hindrance from the authorities, plunder houses, rob travellers, and take well-to-do people captive and hold them to ransom. At Bellova a gang of these thieves broke into a house, garotted all the inmates, and carried away everything of value on which they could lay their hands. The village of Hassan Echaouchelar has been completely ravaged, and its inhabitants despoiled of all they possessed. The local authorities made no effort to repress these disorders—an apathy, however, for which they are not altogether responsible, inasmuch as they lack the means to repress them. Hardly a day passes that the Vali does not receive from the governors and under-governors requests for reinforcements; but as the Vali has hardly sufficient gendarmes to protect his own person, these requests have been necessarily disregarded. Midhat Pasha's scheme for the reorganisation of the gendarmerie has been abandoned. It was too expensive. The authorities have every disposition to put down brigandage so far as it can be done without cost, but they have not a sou to spare for local purposes. Meanwhile, as the roads are nowhere safe, commerce languishes and agriculture suffers, and traders and cultivators see nothing before them but misery and ruin. The Government suffers also, for agriculture being neglected an important branch of the revenue is paralysed. But Turkish statesmen seem as little capable of promoting the true interests of the country as their own. Not long ago, finding that the production of Syrian alcohol was lessening the importation of foreign spirits, which pay a duty of 8 per cent., and so diminishing the Customs receipts, they levied a tax on the native article, thereby utterly ruining the trade. An attempt was recently made by some wealthy merchants to establish woollen and cotton mills, but so many difficulties were thrust in their way, and the bribes demanded from them were so enormous, that the attempt was perforce abandoned. Even the industry of grinding corn is so heavily weighted with imposts that—albeit, Syria produces wheat in abundance—Russian flour can be sold in Smyrna, after paying all charges, at a lower price than the flour of the country. Syria, too, possesses untold mineral wealth. There are rich mines and veins of argentiferous galena, antimony, coal, emery, and chrome; but as it is not possible to obtain authority to work a mine for less than £10,000T, the mines with one or two exceptions, are not worked, the labouring classes of the province are dying of starvation, and the Government is at its wit's end for money. The latest news is that a band of brigands, commanded by a certain Djed Oglu, have carried away a merchant from Tyre, and demand for his release a ransom of £1,000T. Another band has appeared in the region of Nymphio, and there has been a smart engagement between some brigands and gendarmes in the neighbourhood of the Aidin Railway. Result unknown.

AUSTRALIA.—The Melbourne correspondant of the *Times* writes that a bitter epistolary warfare has been raging in the columns of the Victorian journals in consequence of some strong anti-Papist expressions from a few well-meaning zealots, clerical and lay, at a late public meeting convened for the purpose of making provision for the founding of a new Protestant Hall.

"The Rev. Hussey Burgh Macartney, a clergyman of the Anglican Church and a son of our venerable and not less zealous Dean Macartney, particularly distinguished himself by the utterance of some very strong expressions smacking much of Exeter Hall. These have aroused the ire of the indignant Romanists, who have paid Mr. Macartney in kind, and in addition have demanded of Bishop Moorhouse to come down on his clergymen. Not a day passes but letters appear, some attacking, some heartily defending, Mr. Macartney. In truth the Roman Catholics have drawn this new Protestant Hall movement on themselves, and only have themselves to blame for it. For several years past 'the Catholic vote' has aimed at making or destroying any and every Ministry, whatsoever its merits or demerits, just as such Ministry would or would not show a disposition to concede the Romanist claims touching the subject of education. This continued policy of factious obstruction, encouraged by the priests, has at last raised the cry that the Protestant sects must 'close their ranks' and act in concert, unless they are to consent to be legislatively bullied by one-fourth of the community, and that by far the most ignorant fourth. Bishop Moorhouse, an able, active, accomplished, and judicious man, probably does not much admire this new, though not unprovoked, outburst of Protestant zeal; but he has not as yet offered to curtail the right of free speech which Mr. Macartney's friends claim for him as their outspoken leader. Dr. Gould, the Romanist Bishop, has carried himself consistently in the matter—as in most other matters—by not giving the slightest sign of his intellectual existence."

CENTRAL AFRICA.—The news has just been received in Edinburgh of the massacre, in the latter days of December, of 19 natives who were engaged by Mr. James Stewart, C.E., as carriers on the new road which he is constructing between Lake Nyassa and Lake Tanganyika. For the construction of this road, which is to be 220 miles in length, it will be remembered that Mr. James Stevenson, of Largo gave the handsome sum of £3,600, and that over it it was proposed to carry a steamer in pieces, to be launched in Tanganyika, for the London Missionary Society. For the facts regarding the massacre we are indebted to Dr. Moir, who has received a letter from his son, Mr. Frederick Moir, of the African Lakes Company. Mr. Moir writes:—"Mr. Stewart decided to go up to Chiwinda's or Maliwandi's to build a house to commence operations from. He could not get carriers from the coast to take his goods, so he walked up and down with his men brought from the south. On their third journey, I think it was, they came alone, and at a village, Niemberas, eleven down-country men and eight of Chiwinda's, who were coming to carry loads, were murdered. No cause is given for the murder, though there were rumours that the boys had stolen food, &c., but that was not confirmed. Only four boys out of the twenty-three engaged escaped and got to the Mbashi. They hid in a little stream they had to cross, lying unnoticed under the reeds, and coming on by night. Munro, a European, who was with the men, had been detained. I volunteered to go up with my men to help Mr. Stewart to punish the murderers, find out, if possible, if any were taken as slaves, and relieve Munro, whom Chiwinda was threatening on account of his eight men having been killed. All the lake chiefs volunteered to accompany, but at the last Mankindya and his people would not come, and Mwakyusa also refused. Mangawarra still said he would come, and he did, bringing near 400 men with him. About noon Mwakyusa, who had refused, came in with 250 men; but as we had as many as we could hold in check we sent him back. Some 100 people near Niemberas joined us on the last day. We entered the valley, the people retreating, blowing horns and whistling. At one place, when my boys had followed a party over a high hill, they advanced close to us, when one was shot, and they retired again. Mangawarra got some cattle and goats—we took none for ourselves—and we burned the chief's village, between 300 and 400 houses, we suppose. We then went on to Chiwinda's, and found Munro all right (though he had had an anxious time), and we took down all Mr. Stewart's goods to Karongas." Mr. Moir adds that when he left the north end of the lake he was on the most friendly relations with all the chiefs. In a private letter from the Rev. Dr. Robert Laws to a friend, dated Livingstonia, January 3, he writes:—"We heard on Saturday bad news from the north end—nineteen men of Mr. Stewart's have been murdered in cold blood. This has caused his retiring to Bandawee for a time. I am sorry for the poor fellows, several of whom have trudged many a weary mile with me."

EGYPT.—The following telegram from Ala-ed-din, Governor of Eastern Soudan, is published at Cairo by the *Wakaia*, the official paper:—

Massowa, March 15.

An Abyssinian mission from King John arrived here this morning at nine. It is headed by the priest Malek Borhan Kirout, and is composed of ten persons, five priests and five laymen. They intend going to Cairo to pay their respects to his Highness the Khedive, and afterwards to Jerusalem. A dragoman named Yakoub is attached to the mission.

The King of Abyssinia sends as presents to the Khedive ten suits of silver-gilt armour, two ornaments of massive gold, eight leather shields embroided with silver thread, and two large pieces of musk. Also to the Governor-General a stallion of fine breed, with a letter in the following terms:—

"In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Word of God, by whom all things were made, and without whom was not anything made that was made! Unto Him be glory for ever. This is the letter of John, King of Zion, King of the Kings of Abyssinia, who is aided by God. May it safely reach our honoured friend, Ala-ed-din Pasha, in Massowa. How is your health? We continually inquire after you that we may remain in peace. We and our army are, by God's favour, well and enjoy prosperity, with which, also, we hope all Egypt may be blessed. The news of your good disposition and earnest wish for peace has reached us. We are assured of your kind nature and benevolence, and are delighted at your good deeds, for which we love you much. These are the deeds which make men love each other. We pray God to preserve and help you in continuing them!

"Now, in order to strengthen the ties of friendship and affection between us, we have sent you the small present of an excellent stallion, hoping that you will kindly accept it; and in the meantime we beg you to receive our mission and facilitate its arrival at its destination. May your life be long in happiness, O friend."

Ala-ed-din adds that he has received the mission with due honours, and is forwarding it by the steamship *Shabin*, as also the stallion.

INDIA.—The *Times of India* for the 24th of March reports that a rising of a very serious description had just taken place in Kalahundi, one of the principal feudatory States of the Chattisgarh division, in the central provinces. The rising has all the characteristics of an arganised movement, the Khonds, who are the people of the soil, having risen as a body against the Kultas, who for years past have been settling down in Kalahundi, and who by their hard work and careful cultivation have been gradually gaining possession of Khond villages, and depriving the Khonds of their ancient rights. One hundred and forty-two villages have been looted, the value of the plundered property being estimated at over a lakh of rupees, which sum seems likely not to prove an exaggerated one, as within the last ten days the property of thirty-five plundered villages has been recovered and restored, the valuc of that alone amounting to over 21,000 rupees. The absence of violence of any description to man, woman, or child is a very striking feature of this rebellion, the Khonds having received orders from their leaders to loot, but to go on their looting expedition without weapons of any kind. There is every hope that the country may be quieted down by peaceful means, and also that a second rising, which would most assuredly not be unaccom-

panied by violence, may be prevented by a careful inquiry into the grievances of the Khonda, and a restitution of their ancestral rights in as far as it is possible. This will, of course, be the work of patience, experience, and time.

IRELAND UNDER MR. GLADSTONE.

The subjoined correspondence has passed between Mr. W. Barlow Smythe and Mr. Gladstone, in reference to the late murder in Westmeath. Mr. Smythe, writing under the impulse of great excitement and agony, with the incidents of the tragic scene fresh in his mind, addresses the Prime Minister as follows:

"*Barbavilla-house, Collinstown, Killucan, April* 3.

"Sir,—Your practical adhesion to the principal that force is no remedy in the case of Irish savagery, has culminated here in making it easy for the assassin guerilla of the Land League to murder my sister-in-law, Mrs. H. Smythe, yesterday, not long after noonday, in my carriage, returning from church with me (their intended victim), and Lady H. Monck, who also escaped. I enclose the circumstances of the case that led to it, and I challenge the empire to produce an honest jury that shall convict me of moral wrong in my action in the matter. I lay the guilt of the deed of blood at your door in the face of the whole country, supported as you are in that part of your policy by the 'no-rent' members of Parliament, their Press, and some Irish Bishops. The unfortunate remark of a judge that murderous outrages were confined to the same class as the assassins has begun to be terribly refuted. I have to add that the terrorism existing under the protection of your police is so tremendous that I know there are few of those who abhor the crime who would venture to denounce the assassins had they seen them, and that were they to do so their lives would be forfeited, while the prisoners would almost as surely escape after the farce of a trial by jury. I am,

"W. B. Smythe, Senior D.L., county Westmeath.

"To the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P."

To this letter Mr. Gladstone returned the following answer:—

"10, *Downing-street, Whitehall, April* 4, 1882.

"Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Gladstone to acquaint you that he has this morning received your letter, and he begs to assure you of his deep and heartfelt sympathy with you on the occasion of this terrible outrage which has been committed. He is confident that you will readily understand why he does not notice the matters of charge contained in your communication. I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

"Mr. W. B. Smythe." "E. W. Hamilton."

In a supplementary letter to the *Daily Express* Mr. Smythe writes as follows:—

"Sir,—I regret that I did not add the following to my letter yesterday. I wish publicly to offer my mournful thanks to many friends, acquaintances, and strangers for many kind words (to so few of whom I can write) on the part of myself and of my bereaved family, of whom seldom dare I think for long. We all need the many prayers offered for us all to the God of all consolation.—Faithfully yours,

"W. B. Smythe.

"N.B.—I hope other friendly papers, English and Scotch as well, may kindly copy this."

Mr. Smythe has also written:—"I was not 'frequently,' or ever, advised to obtain police protection. So of course I did not 'refuse.' Police protection was sent to this place eighteen months ago, after threatening letters to my agent, and soon withdrawn as needless."

Of the six men who were arrested near the scene of the murder of Mrs. Smythe, on suspicion of being implicated in the crime, two were discharged and four remanded for a week. The murder has given a violent wrench to the relations between Mr. W. Barlow Smythe and his tenants, as will be seen from the following circulars, one written before the other after the event. The first had been printed, and a proof-sheet sent to Mr. Smythe on the morning of the murder; but it has since been cancelled and another substituted. The first circular, dated from Barbavilla House, was in these terms:—

To Mr. ——,—Having learnt that the tenants wished to have a rearrangement of rents, such as is now going on elsewhere, I have carefully considered my rental, with the help of the ordnance valuers' field-books which I have, and I find that there are very few cases in which the rents are higher than would allow farmers not only to live, but to thrive, as I am glad to think the industrious among you have done. I am, however, aware that some concessions have to be made in consequence of the Land Act, to which landowners must submit; and I do not regret having had to examine the circumstance of every farm, so as to decide every case upon its merits. I offer you, therefore, the following permanent scale of rent, subject to all existing rights, if you choose to have it made a rule of the Land Court, free of costs, from November last. Of course, if you are not satisfied, you can apply to the Court, but this offer shall be given in evidence.

The second circular, which is substituted for the above, is in the following terms:—

To the residents on the Barbavilla estate and others,—I do not go through the former farce of calling you "friends." Few of you are so. Most of you by your silence assent to the deed of blood, and many of you only regret that one who has passed his long life and spent his income among you was not the victim. Some of you knew what was intended, and are as guilty in God's sight as the murderers. On a former occasion you went through the form of condemning the sending of threatening letters. That decent hypocrisy does not now exist. You are better teachers and better taught, and have not therefore, insulted me by any address of condolence and congratulation. I, however, address you, and wish you to know that those among you liable to rents are in future to pay to a non-resident agent, who can make no future allowances, nor do anything on the property not strictly required by law. I regard many of you as guilty of complicity, direct or indirect, in the plot which was hatched in Collinstown, and more of you as accomplices, after the fact, in your tacit countenance of the instigators of murder, which you may, indeed, regret because of the fatal mistake (which you, of course, hope to rectify), and as prejudicial to your Land League of men and women, but not as a sin against God's command, "Thou shall do no murder." May He lead some of you to repentance and give you forgiveness, for His Son's sake, Whose death is now being celebrated by all who call themselves Christians in this unhallowed island,

W. B. Smythe.

Barbavilla House, Good Friday, 1882.

A message has been received by the Lord-Lieutenant from General Ponsonby, Mentone, expressing Her Majesty's desire to be informed as to the health of Lady Henrietta Monck, who was in the carriage with Mrs. Smythe, but happily escaped unhurt.

A daring attempt at murder was made on Wednesday night in Kildare. At about half-past nine o'clock two shots were fired into the house of Mr. Thomas M'Gowan, publican, who at the time was sitting behind his desk. He had a very narrow escape, as one of the bullets penetrated 5in. of wood and lodged within half a foot of his head. A policeman and a man named Holland were standing at the counter, and also narrowly escaped being shot. The intending assassins must have fired with a rifle and with a blunderbuss loaded with slugs. The police barracks are about ten yards from the house, and there are thirty extra police stationed in and around the village. M'Gowan was recently Boycotted for some unknown reason, and his horse was shot in broad daylight about two months ago. A returned American named Devlin and a tramp named Carty have been arrested on suspicion.

The residence of Major Studdart, J.P., near Kilrush, country Clare, was burnt to the ground on Wednesday night. It is not known whether the fire was malicious. The district has hitherto been peaceable.

Major Traill, R.M., in a characteristic letter to the *Daily Express* endeavours to allay the panic which has been excited by recent murders, and to point out how persons exposed to danger should be protected. He divides the "objectives" into two classes, large and small. In the former are included magistrates, landlords, agents, and such of the gentry as have from any cause become obnoxious; in the latter are the tenant-farmers or peasantry, who, from paying rent or any cause have become "objectives." The large class must be defended by police and military, the small class can defend themselves. Belonging to the former class himself, he graphically describes the precautions which he takes. They exhibit a curious picture of life. He says:—

My guard consists of four policemen, divided daily into first and second escort and outer and inner guard. The first and second escort accompany me wherever I go; one armed with a Winchester rifle, carrying twelve rounds ready to be fired, and fifteen extra rounds in pouch; the other armed with a double-barrelled gun loaded with buckshot, and eight extra rounds. I carry a revolver and six spare rounds, and my groom carries a revolver and five spare rounds; so that I never move about with less than twenty-five cartridges ready to be fired in as many seconds, and thirty-four cartridges in reserve, besides which I generally take a revolver and fifty rounds for sale to any good man who wishes to be able to defend himself. As I drive along, every suspicious wood or stone wall or bank that might harbour an assassin is reconnoitred by my escort, who go into a wood, &c., at full speed, and like a pack of hounds, scarcely causing me to check the speed of my horses, and as I approach my own house my escort leave my trap, and before I can drive down my avenue every plantation has been thoroughly searched, and at full speed, the men working when necessary to any whistle call. The escort take all night patrols from ten p.m. till daylight, lying in ambush and searching for explosives with a retriever and a thoroughbred bulldog. The outer guard goes out with my wife or children or carriage; the inner guard remain at home and about the premises. All day duties and patrols from daylight till ten p.m. are taken by the guard; all escort duties on me and night duties from nine p.m. till daylight next day are taken by the escort. No one comes near my place without being met by a policeman, who remains with him and sees him off the premises when his duty is completed. My police have orders to arrest and bring before me anyone found unlawfully on any of my premises not belonging to the establishment. At no moment of the twenty-four hours, waking or sleeping, eating or drinking, is a revolver out of reach of my hand, and my wife has her revolver and knows how to use it.

He has been often threatened and warned that his assassination was not only decided upon, but actually paid for. In December last he was informed that on a certain Sunday he was to be shot on his way from church, and sixteen men had lain in wait for the purpose; but he says. "Of course, I did not go, and as I have no intention of being shot I leave nothing to chance. Publicly and privately, openly and secretly, at home and abroad, I defy them and all their organisation can bring to bear on me to break my organisation or to hurt one hair of my head." He divides the perpetrators of outrage into three classes—fanatics, hired assassins, and those on whom the duty falls under their own organisation either by lot or detail, their own death being the penalty for disobedience to their own code. The Irish fanatic, unlike the Indian, will not face death nor even the chance of it. The hired assassin is trying to earn money and risks his life to get it, but he is open to a higher price and will give information if he can feel assured that he will not be publicly brought forward as a witness. The tool is entitled to some consideration. Having become a member of a secret organization, unwittingly it may be, he cannot dissociate himself from it, but must obey its mandate under penalty of his life. He will also give information even without being paid for it so long as it is not likely to be known that he did so. "Let certain death, then," observes Major Traill, "be the method of defence prepared by all 'objectives' for either the fanatic, the hired assassin, or the tool who may attempt to take the life of his neighbour. The man who attempts my life and lives to be tried by a jury is entitled to their merciful consideration as a brave man." The letter is written from Claremorris.

Friday's *Gazette* contained another proclamation in reference to the murder of Mr. Herbert, offering £500 reward to any person or persons who shall within six months give such information as shall lead to the arrest and prosecution of the person or persons who committed the murder, and a further reward of £100 for such private information as may lead to the same result. In a previous proclamation a reward of £2,000 was offered for such information as should lead to the conviction of the murderers. In another proclamation a reward of £100 is offered to any persons who shall within six months give such information as shall lead to the conviction of the person or persons who set fire to the out-offices of farms on the townsland of Rathmore, county Wexford.

Four shots were fired on Wednesday se'nnight at a bailiff, named Hernan, residing at Arran, county Galway, and one of them took effect in his jaw. One arrest has been made.

A curious application came before the magistrates presiding in the Cork Police-office on Wednesday. Mr. Julian, solicitor, applied on behalf of a trader named Conway, for a summons against some members of the constabulary, for tearing down placards which he had posted as advertisements in reference to his business. It appeared that the words "pay no rent" appeared on the placard in conspicuous type, while the advertisement itself was printed in very small letters. Mr. Mitchell, R.M., said it was under the consideration of the Government whether Mr. Conway should be prosecuted himself for having posted these placards, and a newspaper in which the advertisement appeared was called upon to discontinue it. The Bench assented to the application, but it was intimated by Sub-Inspector Mayne that the police would summon Mr. Conway for having issued the placards.

The following resolutions have been unanimously adopted at conferences of the Roman Catholic clergy of the archdiocese of Cashel and Emly, held on Sunday, in Thurles, and on Wednesday in Tipperary. They contain the first collective condemnation from this quarter of the outrages. It is to be regretted that they are of so mild and limited a character, and the fact that other questions are referred to seems to suggest a palliation of crime and outrage, and to make their suppression depend upon political conditions:—

Resolved, first, that while we tender our united congratulations to the members of the advanced, that is, the active and earnest Irish Parliamentary party, for having faithfully redeemed in the House of Commons the political pledges given by them on the hustings, and our heartfelt thanks to them for having resisted to the utmost of their power, though ineffectually, every effort made by the Government to gag, terrorise, and coerce this country, we at the same time emphatically condemn the course taken in these respects, both in and out of Parliament, by Mr. P. J. Symth, senior member for the great county of Tipperary. We declare that to our certain knowledge he has utterly forfeited the confidence of his constituents, lay as well as clerical; and we unhesitatingly assert that, such being the case, he is bound, in honour as well as common honesty, to resign his seat.

Resolved, secondly, that every species of outrage committed against person or property, but especially on dumb and defenceless animals, is to be earnestly and sincerely deprecated; that we shall exert all the influence we possess in our respective parishes to prevent the perpetration of this very discreditable class of offences; and that midnight raids, made for the purposes of vengeance or intimidation on poor and unprotected families or individuals, should be most strenuously denounced by the clergy, and discouraged by every right-minded and patriotic Irishman.

Resolved, thirdly, that there can be neither peace nor prosperity in Ireland so long as industrious tenants are evicted at the point of the bayonet for the non-payment of excessive rent, or while numbers of our best and most valued citizens, including the chief leaders of the Irish people, are detained in prison without trial and on no specific or tangible charge; that we demand from the Government accordingly the immediate staying of evictions on account of arrears of rent, the restoration of our constitutional rights, and the release of our imprisoned patriots; and that we hereby pledge ourselves, one and all, to co-operate in every legitimate way with our faithful Parliamentary representatives in procuring the much-needed and substantial amendment of the Land Act as well as for the passing through Parliament of a measure to improve the condition of Irish agricultural labourers and artisans.

Appended to the resolutions are the names of 115 parish priests and curates.

Placards were posted at Castleisland on Monday, offering a reward of £500 to any person who would murder five landlords, to be named to him.

Two sentry-boxes for the use of the soldiers stationed at Newport were being conveyed on Monday by road from Limerick to Castleconnell. The carriers rested on the journey, and during their temporary absence the sentry-boxes were carried away, broken up, and burned in the village.

An attempt was made on Sunday night to blow up the police barracks at Ballycooney. A large quantity of gunpowder had been used. The explosion tore up the floor of the building, and considerably damaged the walls and roof. Previous to the occurrence, shots were heard in another direction, and these, it is thought, were intended to distract the attention of the police.

Friday night's *Dublin Gazette* contains a proclamation by the Lord-Lieutenant offering a reward of £100 to any person who shall hand over to justice Denis Ryan and Patrick Lowry, who, with other persons, murdered Patrick Sullivan, of Glounaphoca, on the 21st of November; £50 is offered for such information as will lead to their apprehension. The Lord-Lieutenant also offers £100 for the bringing to justice of a writer of a Boycotting placard posted in the village of Mullough, county Clare. Two hundred pounds are offered for information that will lead to the conviction of the person or persons who, disguised and armed, attacked the house of Patrick Duggan, farmer, of Shronemore, county Kerry, and wounded its occupant with shot.

The following correspondence has taken place between Mr. W. Barlowe Smythe and Mr. Forster with reference to the recent murder in the county Westmeath:—

Barbavilla House, April 10.

Sir,—A foul and horrible murder was committed here (April 2) by the real Executive of Ireland, whose constitutional agitation combines the offices of judge and executioner in one. It was intended for me, in consequence of an act of which I had for some time thought myself guilty in the cause of law and order, and treasonable to other owners of property for postponing so long, and of the possible—I hoped not probable—consequence of which to myself I was not ignorant. The murder was reported by me forthwith to the Viceroy, direct from whom a sympathetic reply at once came, for which I am grateful. I have had no communication since with or from the nominal Executive of Ireland, nor do I know of any public steps taken by them to discountenance their rival—not even the obvious, however useless, offer of a reward for discoveries. I hope you are not all becoming morally infected by the dark indifference to the normal state of this wretched country, conspicuous here during the past week in the sullen manner of the people, arising, probably, in part, from the undoubted fact that this heartrending murder was the result of an unintended bullet by a misguided hand. I wish I could think that horror had paralysed the country and hindered an involuntary expression of horror. No, I hear of no public denunciation of murder, no public sympathy, no excommunication of assassins proclaimed to the masses yesterday, the great festival of Christianity, which, however late, would have been decent. I hear only of an invitation yesterday in the chapel to till the land of a suspect. I did hope that the nominal Executive would have exerted themselves before now in the face of the empire. I hope you, too, are not paralysed by the demoralisation of Ireland, of the progress of which I have frequently warned you, and which your weakness has fostered to such a culpable extent.—I am,

W. B. Smythe.

The Right Honourable the Chief Secretary of Ireland

To this letter Mr. Forster sent the following reply:—

April 11.

Sir,—I have this morning received your letter of yesterday's date, and lose no time in expressing my deep sympathy with you in the terrible affliction which has been brought upon you by a murder almost unparalleled in its reckless and cruel wickedness. I can assure you that from the first moment of hearing of the crime the authorities have been straining every nerve to discover the perpetrators. You express surprise that no reward has been advertised. This simply arises from the fact that persons are now in custody on remand charged with the murder. I understand that Captain Butler, the special resident magistrate in charge of Westmeath, and Sub-Inspector Waters have been in constant communication with you as well as with myself.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, W. E. Forster.

Mr. W. B. Smythe.

The Belfast Board of Guardians passed the following resolution on Monday:—

That we are of opinion that the Land Act of 1881 was a valuable instalment of justice to the hitherto very much oppressed and rack-rented tenant-farmers of Ireland; and while we cordially sympathise with the intentions of the Government to ameliorate the impoverished condition of the Irish tenantry, we are of opinion the said Act has not met all the requirements expected of it, and is capable of considerable amendment.

A threatening notice is at present present being circulated in Ennis and other parts of county Clare. It is addressed to "the men of historic Clare and Ireland," and gives notice that "Pautch" Cunningham, Town Park, Ennis, has been giving his cars for a long time with impunity to the police to attend evictions, &c., and to "King Clifforey Lloyd, of Cromwellian descent, to drive the band of hired assassins" throughout the country. Cunningham's relatives are denounced in scurrilous terms, and then "Captain Moonlight," whose name is appended, swears by "Parnell, Davitt, Dillon, and the rest of the patriots," that any persons who after this warning supply cars to such parties shall "die the death of Bailey, the informer in Dublin;" that the same fate awaits any one, if it should be ten years to come, who gives his cars for such a purpose. Maurice Tinnhom, an innkeeper, and his father are also pointed out for lending cars in defiance of the general orders of the people, and it is declared that any Land Leaguer who enters his house and supports him shall die the death of a traitor. The notices conclude, "Men of Clare to the rescue! God save Ireland!"

Mr. Charles Stewart Parnell, M.P., was released from Kilmainham gaol on Monday morning on parole, in order to attend the funeral of his nephew, the son of his sister, Mrs. Gardner, who died in Paris on Saturday last. At six o'clock Mr. Parnell left Kilmainham in a cab, and drove straight to Westland-row, where he arrived in time to catch the mail steamer to England. He was quite unaccompanied, no one but the immediate authorities being aware of the decision to set him at liberty, and he had simply a valise in the cab containing a few necessary articles of clothing. The passage across the Channel was somewhat protracted on account of a fog, and the train from Holyhead was nearly an hour behind time in reaching London. The news that Mr. Parnell had been liberated was widely circulated in the metropolis during the course of the afternoon, and in anticipation of his arrival a large number of representatives of the press, Irish sympathisers, and supporters, together with several Irish members of Parliament, awaited at Euston station the arrival of the Irish mail. A carriage was also present, and was in readiness to convey Mr. Parnell to Charing-cross railway station. Mr. Justin M'Carthy, M.P., Mr. O'Donnell, M.P., Mr. Frank Byrne, secretary, and Mr. Thomas Quinn, of the National Land League of Great Britain, and several representatives of the press proceeded to Willesden, to meet the member for the City of Cork. The train arrived at Willesden about three-quarters of an hour late. Mr. Parnell was found sitting alone in a first-class compartment at the end of one of the carriages. He appeared to be unwell, and a white handkerchief, which was tied round his temple, gave additional pallor to his complexion. In appearance Mr. Parnell is considerably altered, and his features are pallid and somewhat pinched. He has also allowed his beard to grow since his incarceration. Mr. Byrne was the first to enter the compartment and greet Mr. Parnell, whom he warmly shook by the hand. On seeing the others the member for Cork smiled quietly, and remarked, "Well, I did not anticipate this, and I don't know but what I am breaking my parole in receiving you." Mr. M'Carthy rejoined that that was scarcely probable, as there were barely enough of them present to constitute a demonstration. Mr. Parnell replied, "Well, probably not." A hurried conversation then ensued as to what route Mr. Parnell intended to travel to Paris by, and whether he was going on that night. Mr. Parnell said, "Certainly, and by to-night's mail." Mr. M'Carthy thereupon remarked, "Well, we will take a carriage, which is in waiting at Euston for us, I believe, and drive direct to the railway station. There will be a few friends there probably, but not many." "No, I had better not go there," said Mr. Parnell, "I am anxious to avoid even the appearance of straining the terms of my parole. Let us get out here," continued Mr. Parnell. By this time the train was in motion. One of the party, however, called to the station-master and several of the railway officials, who had learned who the occupant of the carriage was, and had gathered about the carriage, to open the door and draw up for a moment. The carriage door was quickly opened, and one after the other the occupants jumped upon the platform, Mr. Parnell being actually helped out by the station-master while the train was moving out of the station, it having been found impossible to stop it. The party having consulted as to what was best to do under the circumstances, the station-master said they could get to Camden Town, and from there they might drive in time to Cannon-street to catch the 8.10 p.m. Paris train. Acting upon this advice, Mr. Parnell and his friends took tickets by the North London train to Camden Town, which was not reached until five minutes to eight o'clock, too

late to catch the French mail, the train having been delayed on account of the holiday traffic. At Camden Town Mr. Parnell and the others entered a cab and drove to the Euston Hotel, where several telegrams and letters from Paris were awaiting the member for Cork. After receiving these Mr. Parnell, with the rest of the party, drove to Mr. M'Carthy's residence in Jermyn-street, where he passed the night, and proceeded to Paris by the morning train on Tuesday.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

On Tuesday evening Mr. Raikes, M.P., was entertained at Liverpool by the Junior Conservative Club, in recognition of his return for Preston. Mr. David M'Iver, M.P., was in the chair. Responding to his health, Mr. Raikes, who was warmly cheered, said he valued the privilege of dining with the Liverpool Conservatives that night on account of the goodwill shown towards him, and because he believed that that was almost an unique occasion in the life of a public man transcending a display of purely local feeling. He felt it all the more because Liverpool was the centre of sound opinion, and it lay about half-way between his old constituency and his new one. He felt that in speaking there that night he had been assigned the position of the member of the company who crossed the stage with the prologue before some great drama was enacted. Constitutional feeling was to be rallied during the week in Liverpool at a crisis in the history of the country which was probably without example, and he was glad the Junior Conservatives had opened the ball, because it was to them the party must look for their mainstay in the future. He was happy to think that Lord Beaconsfield, when he laid deep and broad the foundations of the Tory party of the future, had appreciated the immence force to be brought to bear upon the future politics of the country by the Conservatives in the great centres of urban population. (Cheers.) He did not depreciate the value of the associations of what had always been called the "Country Party." The landed interest in this country had always been powerful, and, he trusted, would always be powerful; but the landed interest was not now powerful enough to sway the destinies of the country, unless it were seconded, and indeed stimulated, by the Conservatives of the great towns and cities. He was happy to think that in the events which had happened since 1867 they had seen much to warrant the prescience of that statesman who was prepared to stake the future of the country upon those Constitutional opinions, up to that time latent, which he knew could be developed in the great constituencies of the country. They would expect him to refer to events which had occurred since Parliament met two months ago. Eight important divisions had taken place in that time, and in three of them the Conservative party had been in the majority. (Applause.) That, he thought, was a very considerable testimony to the wisdom of those who led that party. If they had been in the minority on those occasions, they would only have been in the natural position of an Opposition. The first two of the divisions he referred to were on the admission of Mr. Bradlaugh, and he had no doubt they were all a little perplexed at the attitude of the Government with regard to the question. They would and they would not. They had never been able to define the precise position which in the exercise of their conscientious conviction and in the discharge of their public duties it behoved them to take. The attitude of Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues was not likely to commend itself to the robust judgment of the English people. He would pass from that to the question of the day—Ireland. The Government undertook to solve the Irish difficulty, although just before taking office they said there was no Irish difficulty at all, and although immediately after they took office they neglected those methods of dealing with it which had approved themselves to the judgment of their predecessors. It was on Easter Tuesday last year that this country was deprived of Lord Beaconsfield's services and sagacity, and it was not inappropriate to remember the strong view he took as to the position in Ireland, the light and reckless manner in which his assertions were combated by those who sought to oust him from power, the careless and wanton manner in which his warnings were disregarded after power had been assumed by his successors, and the terrible consequences. It was the first duty of all law-abiding Englishmen, Scotchmen, and Irishmen, to support the Government in their attempts to support the cause of law and order, even if the steps they took were not those which would commend themselves to their minds. They might be sure the Conservative members of the House of Commons would consider what was due to their Queen and country, and would readily lend that assistance to their opponents, which they know their opponents would in no circumstances render to them. (Cheers). At the present moment there was a consultation going on in Dublin. Three doctors had been called in—three noblemen who had filled the office of Chief Secretary and Lord Lieutenant had met to advise with the present unfortunate occupant of the former office as to the best way of dealing with the patient, who appeared to be almost *in extremis*. He thought it would be well if they would think a little more of the loyalty in this country and the loyalty which still existed in Ireland, and if when they prescribed for the disease, which had been aggravated by the treatment of the unfortunate practitioners who had hitherto attempted to prescribe for it, they would infuse a little more of that which they might be perfectly certain would be approved by the judgment of this country, and a little less of that empty windbag talk, which had been the staple of their policy. There was another question which had recently engaged the attention of Parliament—he referred to the resolution proposed for altering the procedure of the House of Commons. He felt some surprise when he found those who either excited the prolonged sittings of the last Parliament, or most largely profited by them, employing those very actions as instances justifying them in introducing a radical and fundamental change into the very Constitution of the country. The first resolution Mr. Gladstone proposed was not a mere regulation of debate, it was an entire change in the constitution of Parliament, and would fail to accomplish any good purpose. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. John Walter, M.P. for Berkshire, in reply to one of his constituents who wrote to him complaining of his vote in the division on the closure resolution, and asking whether he still considered himself a member of the Liberal party, says:—Before answering your question, "Whether I still consider myself a member of the Liberal party," I am tempted to ask you another—What do you consider the true test of being a member of that party? If it consists, as I should have thought it did, in being in sympathy with what are generally known as "Liberal opinions," and in supporting measures founded on those opinions, then I should be glad to know on what ground you challenge my right to be considered a member of the Liberal party. If, on the other hand, it consists, as some appear to hold, in making the will and pleasure of the Prime Minister the sole measure of Liberal membership, then I should undoubtedly decline to be bound by any such construction. There are certain broad and well-defined questions—such as those affecting the rights of the community, civil and religious, upon which the course of a Liberal member is comparatively plain and easy. There are questions—like that of the Irish Land Act—upon which, as a member of the Liberal party, he is bound to give a general support to a Liberal Government, and even to surrender, if necessary, much of his private judgment to its authority. But there are other questions, such as the Bradlaugh case, which involved the sanctity of an oath, and the closure resolution, which affects the privileges of the House of Commons itself, which are, in my opinion, paramount to all party considerations, and upon which every member who does not consider himself a mere delegate of his constituents has a right to exercise his own judgment. If the Liberals who objected to the closure had shown the same courage of their opinions that they displayed in the Bradlaugh case, the majority in the division would have been reversed.

Mr. W. M. Torrens, who abstained from voting in the crucial division on the closure, has written to the Finsbury Liberal Association on the same subject. He denies the allegation that the fate of the Government was involved in Mr. Marriott's amendment. "From the outset it was well understood that though many independent Liberals would abstain from voting, the total strength of Opposition could not come within twenty or thirty of their rivals. In conversation with more than one member of the Ministry I stated my own intention to abstain; believing that closure, as proposed, would prove no practical remedy for the block of general business, and fearing that it would add a new element of distraction and distrust, if frequently applied. In his elaborate and eloquent speech introducing the measure Mr. Gladstone deprecated its being dealt with as a party question. How is it just or reasonable, then, to blame your members for not having treated it as such, on the pretence that the Administration was in peril, when they knew that it was not so? Conscientious men of all parties find themselves often compelled to stand by while friends and colleagues are arrayed on opposite sides; and I have seen the most eminent men in Parliament adopt this alternative without offering any apology or incurring any reproach. Far from claiming the privilege of gainsaying or thwarting the known opinion of the constituency on any subject they have fully considered, I have always recognised the obligation of a member to give that opinion legislative voice. But the proposal that a mere majority should have the power suddenly to close a debate, without any right of remonstrance or appeal, is one so new that five out of seven morning papers tell us they cannot clearly make it out; and the public in general, puzzled by its foreign name, ask for a translation."

Mr. Broadhurst, M.P., at present staying at Scarborough, having written a letter to Mr. Gladstone regarding some rumours to the effect that the Government would favourably consider the amendment of the first resolution in the direction of requiring a two-thirds majority for closing a debate, and expressing a strong hope that there was no truth in the rumour, has received the following reply:—

"*Hawarden Castle, Chester, 8th April*, 1882.

"Dear Mr. Broadhurst, I thank you for your letter, and I can set your mind at rest on the subject to which it refers. It is quite true that we have attached strong safeguards to the exercise of the closing power, which greatly limit its working, and may to some extent interfere with its purpose. Our reward is that opponents shut their eyes to them, and indulge in fears such as in kind they have experienced on the approach of all the great and beneficial changes in our laws which have made this century illustrious, but when considered with reference to the magnitude of the object which excites them even more strange is their exaggeration. We have, however, proposed that when the closing power is to be applied it shall be applied by a simple majority, and this proposal we shall to the best of our ability press upon the House. I earnestly hope that if there be among our friends anyone who has a leaning towards the adoption of what is called a proportionate majority, he will, at any rate, reserve his judgment until we come to the debate.—I remain, faithfully yours, W. E. Gladstone."

At a Conservative demonstration held at Torquay, on Wednesday evening, Sir John Kennaway, M.P., predicted that what East Devon so decidedly thought two years ago England was thinking now. The Liberals sailed into power by making heavy charges against the Conservatives, which they had failed to substantiate, and instead of reducing taxation they had increased it. Mr. Bradlaugh was admitted on all hands to be unfit to legislate; and Mr. Gladstone, in 1837, said that a man who had no belief in Divine Revelation had no right to govern, whether he be Whig or Tory. He was heartily with the Government in the idea that the rules of procedure should be at once amended; but he was utterly hostile to an obnoxious rule which he believed would be used for stamping out fair and legitimate discussion. In regard to Ireland, he contended that the reason that country was such a hotbed of sedition was that the Government sacrificed country and party in pushing a policy of cruel kindness. He did not know what new departure the Government contemplated. He felt that it was a mistake for the parties to have united in their refusal to suffer an inquiry into Home Rule. Some judicious proposal of local government might have resulted from the inquiry. He held the Conservative party would be ready to support the institution of Provincial Government. He was quite alive to the evil of "swopping horses whilst crossing the stream," and therefore was disposed to let the Liberals get the country out of the mess in which they had involved it. Colonel Walrond, M.P., considered the Government were in the A B C of their career. Anarchy, Bradlaugh, and Closure. He hoped to see Ireland removed from the reach of the bitter strife of party, and insisted that the Ministry should propound some policy that should not defer the restoration of law and order. The policy of applying the gag he should oppose to the utmost. Mr. Cubitt, M.P., did not regret that the promises made by the Liberals had not been fulfilled, because they had never proposed a large measure of reform without accompanying it with a large increase of taxation.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson was among the speakers at a political meeting at Wigton, near Carlisle, on Tuesday evening. He could fancy, he said, what sort of advice Lord Salisbury would give to the young lions of the party who just now were haranguing the electors. Probably that advice would be, "Don't talk politics, don't discuss any future measures; but keep firing away and abusing William Ewart Gladstone." It reminded him very much of the story told of a young Presbyterian minister, who was advised to confine himself in his preaching to attacks on the Devil, in which way he could not go very far wrong. He did not know whether Lord Salisbury had given them that advice; but he knew they did keep attacking Mr. Gladstone as an agitator, an anarchist, an atheist, a Ritualist, a Romanist, and a revolutionist; he was a tyrant, a time-server, a trimmer, a turncoat, and a traitor; he was sold to Russia, coerced by Mr. Chamberlain, a slave to Mr. Bright, and a devotee of Mr. Spurgeon. But those who condemned Mr. Gladstone should remember that they were condemning virtually the great majority of their fellow-countrymen, who put Mr. Gladstone in power. It was remarkable that this abusive language came almost entirely from the upper classes, who for the last fifty years had been wrong on almost every great political question that had come before the country. The educated class, as they were called, opposed every advance of freedom and just and wise legislation, and they were now setting themselves against Mr. Gladstone and his Government. Referring to the proposed Channel Tunnel, Sir Wilfrid Lawson remarked that it was a capital scheme, and ridiculed the idea that its execution would imperil this country.

Mr. Mundella responded to the toast of "The Education Department" at the annual dinner of the National Union of Elementary Teachers at Sheffield. He said he would not justify the new Code; he left it to justify itself, if it could, by time and experience. It might be defective; but whatever its defects or its merits might be, time and experience would try them; and he hoped that he, or whoever might succeed him, would be sufficiently candid, fair, and just, if they found defects, to remedy them; and if they found improvements possible, he hoped they would not be wanting in courage to introduce them. All they desired was the good education of the people of the country—the success of education, with as much of happiness and comfort to the educators as was possible under any code. Any one, however, who told them that the British Parliament would pay exclusively for machinery, without any regard to results, deceived them. He would be no party to such deceit. He had done his best to relieve the teachers from everything that was harsh and derogatory, and he trusted that in the working of the new Code it would be found that they would have less friction, more comfort, more success, and less of that unpleasantness which had attached to the work in the past. He had called into his counsels their best friends, and at present he could present to the British Parliament no better document for the regulation of education than the one it had been his privilege to submit. Mr. Mundella concluded by deploring that they had not more middle-class schools, and said that the time must come when middle-class education must be reorganised in this country; and he should rejoice when it did come, because of all the advantages that would result.

Speaking at Bradford, Mr. Redmond spoke of the state of Ireland as being a disgrace to England and to any civilised Government. Remarking that the Irish members would oppose the renewal of the Protection Act, he expressed the opinion that the operation of that Act had so intensified the disaffection of the Irish people that the Irish members could afford to allow the Government to renew it. For the crimes committed in Ireland Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Forster were really responsible. The people were urged by terrible provocation to violence, and their passions found vent in the outrages of which we heard so much. If the Land League were allowed to use its influence over the land, anarchy and bloodshed would disappear like magic. Mr. Redmond went on to accuse Mr. Forster of being a dishonest politician and a sham philanthropist. His whole career in Ireland was full of dishonesty and hypocrisy. He had induced the Government to send the military forces of the country to carry out sentences of death, and to assist the landlords to exterminate persons. It was a disgrace to Bradford and to England that such a man should be allowed to lift his voice in the cause of honesty and philanthropy; but there was the consolation that he had failed. Ireland was down, and over her stood a man as brutal in demeanour as he was in spirit, with a dungeon in one hand and a blood-stained bayonet in the other, with a scowl of hatred in his eye, and the fear of a coward and a bully in his heart—a very Cromwell in ferocity, but, after all, a Forster in imbecility and weakness.

Mr. Biggar addressed the same meeting. He said that Mr. Forster was a man of a vile type. He had betrayed the Liberal party in Bradford at a former general election. He was now the pet of the Bradford Tories. The Compensation for Disturbance Bill was such a measure as one would expect from such a vacillating statesman; but if it had become law it would have failed to attain the result intended. The Coercion Act was based upon fraud and falsehood. If Mr. Forster had been well acquainted with the country he would have imprisoned the men who committed the outrages, and not men who were best calculated to quell disturbance and allay agitation.

Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote arrived at Ormskirk on Tuesday evening, on their way to Lathom House, the seat of Lord Lathom, and received a public welcome. The demonstration was organised by the local Lancashire Conservative Association, who presented an address to Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote. In acknowledging the presentation, Lord Salisbury said that the position of Sir Stafford Northcote and himself as leaders of the Opposition was one of an arduous character; that they needed all the support that could be given them; and that if they were to do anything effective in order to prevent these pernicious innovations which had already been foreshadowed and threatened against the Constitution, all Conservatives in all parts of the country must work their best and heartiest to sustain the common cause. Sir Stafford Northcote, in his reply, observed that the weather forecast of that day was of a rather peculiar and ominous character. It said that the symptoms of pressure and of the direction of the wind were so uncertain that all that could be said by way of a forecast was that they must be prepared for a general and gradual approach of stormy and unsettled weather. He did not know whether that forecast the political future; but of this he was certain—that whatever might be the weather they had to encounter in politics they should always find South-West Lancashire a safe harbour to run into.

Speaking at a mass meeting of Conservative working men at Liverpool on Thursday evening, where about 6,000 persons were present, Lord Salisbury said that he believed the Upper Chamber was the last institution of which it could be said, undoubtedly, that it existed for class purposes. The people had assumed more direct control over their own affairs—consequently the importance of Parliament had diminished to some extent; but if they were to depend on Parliament at all, triennial or annual Parliaments were the only substitutes for a Second Chamber, which, in the true interests of the people, could be safely adopted. There was a desire on the part of the present scratch majority to deal some irrevocable blow before it went to pieces, but the Lords would not allow this to be done until the nation had been consulted. His Lordship then defended the action of the House of Lords in inquiring into the working of the Land Act, and said that they sought to defend the rights of property, not in the interest of the rich, but of all classes of the community. Sir Stafford Northcote, who followed, considered that vast meeting an evidence that the Conservative working man had a substantial existence, and was an encouraging augury of future Conservative triumphs. He alluded to the Irish and Transvaal policies of the Government, and declared that the same spirit underlay both—want of courage and determination. The financial conduct of the Government Sir Stafford criticised in detail, and remarked that it was like a performing horse, which, apparently full of high action, was all promise and no performance. As to the closure, they were to take care they did not, like the Trojans, let in the wooden horse which led to betrayal. Mr. Gibson also criticised the policy of the Government.

On Thursday evening a combined gathering of the Conservatives in Northamptonshire and South Leicestershire took place at Market Harborough, Leicestershire. Among those present were Lord John Manners, M.P., General Burnaby, M.P., Lord Burghley, M.P., Mr. Albert Pell, M.P., Mr. J. C. Lawrence, M.P., Sir Henry Halford, Sir C. E. Isham, Sir F. T. Fowke, and Sir Arthur Hazlerigg. Lord John Manners, replying to the toast of the Houses of Parliament, said he thought they might safely assume that the vast majority of the House of Lords, however much the members of that Chamber might be increased by Mr. Gladstone, would always remain firm and indissolubly Conservative. As for the House of Commons, in 1880 there was a close and cordial alliance between Mr. Parnell and Mr. Gladstone and in all the great English and Scotch towns the Irish vote went solid for the Liberal party, and on the other hand a large and influential body of Whigs reposed a very mistaken confidence in Lord Hartington, who was regarded as a great power among the Liberals, and who, it was believed, would exercise his influence in restraining the proclivities of the more revolutionary partisans of their common cause. Now they saw pretty clearly that it was not from Chatsworth but from Birmingham that the motive power came, and that it was Mr. Chamberlain, and not Lord Hartington, who was the influential ally of Mr. Gladstone. That being so, the more moderate Whigs looked on with disfavour. During the last two months the Government had twice moved votes of confidence in themselves. Now, his experience told him that Governments did not move votes of confidence in themselves without some good reason. During the last Parliament the Opposition were moving votes of want of confidence, with this result that the majorities were doubled. But in this Parliament, when the Government took to moving votes of confidence in themselves, precisely the opposite result occurred, and the majority was diminished by one half. (Laughter.) These votes had tended to a very great waste of time, but that the Government did not very much mind, because it enabled them to turn round and say, "See what an extraordinary waste of time has occurred. We must close your mouths, and apply the French Closure to prevent that waste of time, of which all the world knows we have been guilty." Some of the waste of time was also due to the feeble vaciliating conduct of the Government in the attempt to get Mr. Bradlaugh into the House. Then there was the proposal of the Government to censure the House of Lords. That House in the discharge of one of its most obvious and commonplace duties, appointed a committee to inquire into the working of a certain Act of Parliament, which had in many respects failed. Mr. Gladstone came down to the House of Commons in a white heat of passion, pushed aside all the important business which had been set down for discussion, and spent a whole fortnight in compelling, at the point of the bayonet as it were, the House of Commons to come to a vote, which, although it had been come to, was found to be the most feeble expression of impotent anger that was ever attempted. (Cheers.) He did not know what the Government intended to propose in regard to Ireland; they were responsible for measures which would bring peace and good government to that country, and it was for the Conservative members of the House to support them in these measures.

Painted windows as memorials of departed worth have more than ordinary interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor (late O'Connor) has at all times pleasure in showing his various works for church and hall in progress, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates free. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London.

THE CONSERVATIVE LEADERS AT LIVERPOOL.

Lord Salisbury having laid the corner-stone of the new Conservative Club in Dale-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, said, in reply to a vote of thanks, that he hoped the club might be a bond of union and an instrument of beneficent activity for the Conservative party in the town. Sir Stafford Northcote, speaking on the same occasion, remarked that Conservatives looked upon the city of Liverpool as their stronghold in times of war. In the evening, Lord Salisbury presided at a dinner in the Philharmonic Hall, when, in proposing the principal toast, he alluded to some of the results which had followed the neglect of Conservative principles by this country. What, he asked, had happened that could account for the fact that at present we had for the first time a revolutionary movement against the rights of property in Ireland? There was this remarkable coincidence—that within the last few years we had had in respect to Ireland, for the first time in the history of this country, legislation hostile to the rights of property. We had had a Parliament suddenly changing the doctrine which had been upheld for centuries; suddenly setting aside the rights which, beyond the memory of man, had been acknowledged without dispute; suddenly transferring to one set of men the property that had belonged to another. One quarter of the property of a certain class, so far as the machinery had hitherto worked, had been transferred from that class to another class. Let them consider this in its effect of producing this social revolution. If there was a movement, a successful and dangerous movement, against the laws of property, it was possible in the first instance that the natural defenders of property might be discouraged, and unable to defend their rights with the vigour which in other countries they exercised. The landlords of Ireland had been accused—very ungenerously accused—of feebleness in support of the Government or in defending their own rights. But what had been their position? They had fought between two fires: they had had the enemy conducting the social revolution in their front, and the Imperial Parliament in their rear.

This insecurity, this instability, which is the bane of English policy with respect to Ireland, if it has discouraged the landowning class, has it purchased allegiance, peace, satisfaction even, on behalf of the tenant class? You know that since these concessions were made, large and abundant as they were, the disturbance of society has been more profound than before, the outrages have been more terrible, the prospect of a peaceable settlement has been more remote. And why is it that they have not accepted what seems at first sight to be a splendid offer? Simply because they have been taught by the past conduct of their Ministers and by the past history of their country to expect something more. They knew, what every man must see, that this constant adjournment of finality, these constant changes introduced into the doctrine of property, these new theories invented from time to time to cover a fresh transference from one class to another, were the result, not of conviction, not of feeling of any kind, but of the terror of agitation. And feeling this, they naturally, or at least intelligibly, proceed with the execution of those processes by which agitation has been hitherto so successful. I know this is not the language in which the Land Act of last year was represented. We are often told that it is a magnificent specimen of the generosity of the Imperial Parliament and Ministry; but I imagine that the Irish peasant is not destitute of humour, and that he must grimly laugh over the jest that is being perpetrated for his delusion. Generosity is a quality which is usually exercised at your own expense. If Parliament were generous, of course it would give what it possessed; but the plan of being generous by giving what the landlords possess is a law of generosity which, as far as I know, is only sanctioned by the example of the teaching of Robin Hood. Now, the effect of this ill-disguised and thinly-veiled concession to forcible agitation has been to make up the elements of an insurrection which is encouraged by every sign of yielding on the part of the Government, by every ambiguous phrase pointing to future concessions.

Agitation continued in Ireland because it had hitherto won; and until it was faced by the stern fact that it could not win, it certainly would not cease. Insecurity and instability were the curses of an Irish policy, and this led Lord Salisbury to say that the present system dictated by the Irish Land Act was not one that could effect a pacification of Ireland that could endure, because it enforced a system by which its very nature could not last. He believed that the Land Act would have to be altered, and it could only be altered in one direction—

If you wish to establish peace and contentment in Ireland you must do your best to bring the ownership of land again into single hands. You will see that I am referring to the proposal—notice of which has been given by my distinguished friend, Mr. William Henry Smith—for increasing those powers under which the Commissioners can now act, for enabling Irish tenants to become, with perfect fairness and justice to their present landlords, themselves the owners of their lands. In order to get rid of this social revolution and to restore the conservative instincts of society in Ireland, your effort must be, instead of giving concession to agitation, to provide the population of Ireland with motives for resisting change. I do not know whether it will conciliate them or not. That is not the point to which I am looking; but I know it will make them the defenders of the rights of property, and as defenders of the rights of property restorers of that which will free us from the danger of social revolution which from the highest quarters has been threatened. But this is not the pressing care of the moment. I admit to the full that I am deeply convinced of its extreme importance; but for the present that which presses upon the responsibility of the Government, and which every Englishman has a right to urge is that order shall be restored to Ireland. I am not going to attempt to determine the modes by which that end is to be effected; it is impossible for anyone except those who have the means of confidential and official information in their hands to attempt any task such as that; and do not let it be said that I am pressing for an increase of coercion. I am not pressing for an increase or a decrease of coercion. I do not desire to make any suggestion in respect either to the character of the legislation or to its amount; what I say is that those are things for the responsible Minister of the Crown, and we have a right to insist, by whatever means, that this system of murder shall be arrested, and the ordinary machinery and the ordinary action of society shall be restored. Under the existing state of things liberty is a farce, constitutional rights are a mere supposition; and, whatever the means adopted may be, and however much they may threaten the cohesion of the party now in power, repressive measures must be adopted.

Sir Stafford Northcote, having alluded to the waste of time during the present session, to the fact that the magnificent promises and great expectations held out by the Government were still unfulfilled, to the power of the caucus, and the necessity for organisation and readiness on the part of the Conservative party, admitted that the Government are engaged in a task of enormous difficulty, and one in which they require the greatest consideration and the greatest forbearance. It was the duty of the Conservative party in no way whatever to weaken, but on the contrary to strengthen, the hands of the Executive Government in the great task of restoring order and protecting life and property. But it was not their duty either to disguise that which they, in the opinion of Conservatives, were doing wrongly, or in any way to attempt to hush up their difficulties.

The state of Ireland, Sir Stafford Northcote said, is most serious, and it has become so within the last two years and under the direct effect of the measures which the Government have taken. From the figures I have here, which were taken from the return that was presented at the close of last year, I see that in the six years during which the late Government held office there were in all 1,961 cases of agrarian outrage, or an average of 327 in the year. In the single year 1880 that average number of 327 was turned into 2,589, or more than the whole number in the six years of the Conservative Administration. But in the following year what do we see? In 1881 the outrages had risen from the average of 327 to the fearful and appalling total of 4,439, and among those 4,439 cases of agrarian outrage I see it on record that only 204 convictions had been obtained, and there were 88 prisoners awaiting trial.

The Opposition must watch, must demand an account, must insist upon this state of things being probed to the bottom, and must have from the Government an assurance that they realised the importance and magnitude of the evils with which they had to cope, and that they realised the duty which was incumbent upon them to provide a remedy for such mischief. Other questions were important, such as that to which reference had been made with regard to the tenure of land and to the development of that part of the Land Act which seemed to promise the most, and which had been allowed to become almost a dead letter. But, above all, the most necessary of all measures that could be taken were those that would secure life, property, peace, and order in Ireland.

I say this (he continued) not on behalf of the property-holding class alone, and not on their behalf chiefly, but for the sake of those unhappy men who are being demoralised by the system of terror and corruption, and of those who desire to do their duty, and to be honest, and who risk their lives in consequence, and are left unprotected and unavenged at the mercy of the unscrupulous ruffians who are committing these outrages. Ireland, in all parts of the country, is in need of well-administered and justly administered laws, and if there is an apparent deficiency of power or an apparent deficiency of hearty goodwill on the part of the Government to administer and execute the laws, the cause of good government suffers from that appearance of weakness. Once allow it to be supposed that the Government is too weak to grapple with the evil and you increase the force and momentum of the evil tenfold or a hundredfold in proportion as you show that inability. I know that in thus speaking I am addressing those to whom such words are unnecessary. Yet it is almost impossible, unless one sees figures before one, and unless one sees the tales which are brought under notice daily, to believe that at this time of our history, at this period when so much has been done to forward education and civilisation among the great masses of our people, such things should still exist. The time has come when it is absolutely necessary that the Government should make up their minds and should act. From us they will receive nothing but cordial support when they are acting, as we believe, with firmness, with vigour, and with intelligence; but, on the other hand, we are not to be blindly led nor to be silenced by anything like the intimidations of a single imperious will, and we are not to be deterred from pressing for the administration of law and order and the preservation of peace in Ireland by the possible consideration that such measures may hurt the vanity and discredit the prescience of our present Administration.

MR. FORSTER'S DILEMMA.

In his "Letters to Eminent Persons," "Kosmos" in the *World* addresses himself this week to Mr. W. E. Forster as follows:—

"It is a painful thing to say, but it must be said, that the government of Ireland cannot be carried on so long as you are primarily identified with its conduct. You have estranged from yourself, and, as far as any individual could, from the Government, from the Liberal party, and from England, every class of the Irish people. Without meaning, still less without wishing, to do so, you have outraged their sentiment, wounded their prejudice, stirred to the lowest foundations their hatred and contempt. To such a pass have things come that, if murder, rebellion, and anarchy are not to be permanently domiciled on the other side of the Channel, Mr. Gladstone must insist upon dispensing with your services. Theoretically Ireland may be pacified in one of three ways—by repression, by conciliation, or by a combination of both. Whichever policy is selected, you are equally unfitted to administer it. The Irish peasantry will be satisfied by no concessions associated with your name. Repression pure and simple you are disqualified, by your antecedents and your temper, from carrying into effect. The real Irish difficulty, it was the other day observed to me by an Irish Liberal member of Parliament—a staunch personal friend of your own—is William Edward Forster. There is too much truth in the compact brevity of the epigram. The Cabinet is bound to recognise:—First, that its Irish policy has broken down; secondly that no Irish policy it may propound can succeed, so long as its administration is entrusted to you. Your recall is, therefore, imperative. Mr. Gladstone is not very happy or skilful in estimating the peculiar aptitudes of men; but even Mr. Gladstone, had he been at all aware of the dangers which were ahead in Ireland, and the requirements of the country, would not have entrusted the office to you. Your intellect is, with certain limitations, a powerful one. It is destitute of elasticity and resource. You have not the imagination necessary to forewarn you of the development which a critical state of affairs may assume. The absence of these attributes is not compensated for by other gifts which you unquestionably have, but which are quite as much a source of weakness as of strength. You have shown yourself in Ireland a brave, if a blundering man. I believe you also to be a thoroughly honest one; but you are a Yorkshireman, and every Yorkshireman's nature is traversed by a strain of the horse-jockey. You would not condescend to anything like trick or intrigue; but you have a firm belief in the virtues of ingenuous manipulation. If it were not for the aggressive bluntness of your manner, your general shagginess of speech and demeanour, your veritably Spartan contempt for the amenities and courtesies of life, you might have proved exceedingly successful in the art of political management. Your Education Act was a useful measure, and with its later additions has accomplished a great national service. But it was not based upon any one intelligible principle. In the shape in which it was ultimately inscribed on the statute-book it was as nearly as possible invertebrate. It was a mosaic of concessions and modifications. Surrender of some sort was written in every clause of it. You were entitled to congratulate yourself when you had got the business off your hands, but it represented a very small capital on the strength of which a Vice-President of the Council could set up in life as a statesman. You made the fatal mistake of overrating the qualities which had enabled you to win a Parliamentary success. This is exactly what a man of larger mind, and gifted with a broader imagination, would not have done. It is what even a really clever man would not have done. For the best criterion of cleverness is the ability to form a correct estimate of one's capacities, and to steer clear of ignominious mistakes. I have never yet known a bungler at the business of life, whose schemes and projects have uniformly miscarried, who did not hug the notion that he was equal to the most heroic exploit. There is no surer sign of mediocrity than this pitiable vanity: there are too many signs of it in your character and career. You crossed St. George's Channel, anxious to do good, eager to find out the opportunities for doing it; but you had not the alacrity of perception necessary to enable you to descry the exigencies of the hour, and the threatened dangers of the future. On the other hand, you were fortified by the consciousness of your successes at St. Stephen's, and you were honestly persuaded that you had a sufficient share of the true qualities of statesmanship. To speak plainly, you combined with a fair amount of real ability a great deal of stupidity and obstinacy. The combination was fatal. Your deportment and your address, your extraordinary want of all sense of humour, created among the Irish people a feeling of antagonism to you. It was, if the expression may be used, "hated at first sight." Very soon these quick-witted, intriguing, and unscrupulous Celts saw that as you were without the mental swiftness to appreciate the position of affairs, so you were without the strength to formulate and execute a policy. You may say that you thought it right to hope for the best, and that you discerned the glimpses of a brighter future; but a statesman whose action is moulded one moment by his hopes, and the next by his fears, is pretty sure, sooner or later, to involve both himself and his colleagues in disaster. I know it is said that if from the first your Cabinet had allowed you to have your way, things would have gone very differently. With rumours of this sort I am not concerned. If they are true you ought to have resigned your position as Minister of the Crown. But enough of the past. While it is impossible not to hold you partially responsible for the deplorable condition of things now to be witnessed in Ireland, the blame belongs at least in an equal degree to your colleagues. It is one of the inevitable misfortunes of your position that you should be made the scapegoat. The national credit, which is involved in the re-establishment of law and order, is more important than the reputation of an individual or the *prestige* of a Cabinet. Things have now come to a pass at which we are in very truth 'within,' to use Mr. Gladstone's famous phrase, 'a measurable distance of civil war in Ireland.' Scarcely a day passes, without what is, in the official cant, described as an agrarian outrage; but which is, in plain English, a cold-blooded and dastardly murder. The establishment of the reign of terror is as appalling as it is complete. Now, just as soldiers will not endure to be assailed with stones and bludgeons without making some reprisals, so it is impossible that these outrages can remain for ever unavenged. If the Government cannot, or will not, put them down, there are in Ireland men who both can and will do so. Sooner or later blood will have blood. The agents of the League now have matters pretty well their own way; the landlords may yet assert a counter-influence. If the Irish Executive cannot prevent these crimes or punish their authors, there are men, and it may be women, in Ireland who will take the law into their own hands. In the absence of any effective action on the part of those whose duty it is to protect life and property, can these men and women be blamed if they do so? Do you not yourself secretly believe that if a score or so of these craven cutthroats were to be shot down as they butcher their unsuspecting victims, we should hear very little more of such atrocities as the murder of Mrs. Smythe? The inaction of the Government and the impotence of the Executive are an encouragement to the revenge, which in its fiercest form is, as Bacon said, 'a sort of wild justice.' Two things are clear at the present moment. Unless Ministers change their policy, assassination in Ireland will not, and ought not to be the one-sided business that it now is; in the second place, the change of policy cannot be made while you are Chief Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant."

Epps's Cocoa.—Grateful and Comforting.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in Packets labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence for afternoon use.

MR. HERKOMER AT HOME.

Nun leb' du wohl Du altes Haus
Ich geh' betrübt von Dir hinaus,

a charming old German song, set to a lovely old Bavarian melody, is distinctly audible as the visitor crosses the threshold of Dyreham. It is pleasantly as well as distinctly audible; for it is not thumped out on a pianoforte, but tastefully and skilfully played on the zither, the national instrument of Mr. Herkomer's family. He is himself an Englishman by choice, but all his belongings are Bavarian; and it is in Ober Bayern and Tyrol that he has found the inspiration and the models for much of his best work. Perhaps Mr. Herkomer might be described as being, so far as feeling is concerned, most thoroughly at home in Bavaria. Assuredly a life divided between work and family is the most congenial to him.

According to that expression of Argyll, which has been impressed into the slang of to-day, it is "a far cry" from carved wood figures and neat joiner's work to the walls of Burlington House; yet this distance is compassed within the limit of Mr. Herkomer's family. His father was, and is, one of those German workers in wood, whose bookcases and other articles of furniture find as ready a market now as they would have done three or four hundred years ago. Unfortunately Mr. Herkomer the elder lived and worked in his youth and prime through an unappreciative period—that first half of this century which may be called the Age of Vulgarity so far as the furniture and surroundings of every-day life were concerned. This good honest toiler found that his skill and taste met with but little recognition at Waal near the Lechfeld—the scene of the great battle with the Huns—where his son Hubert was born in 1849. While yet his child was but two years old, a weariness of Waal and its ways came over him, and, accompanied by his wife—a clever music-teacher—and his child, he made his way to America, at that time considered the promised land of the *artifex;* but when he got there he found himself too far in advance of the age. Carved oak was even less appreciated thirty years ago in America than in Europe, and the clever artistic couple from Waal had what Americans call "a rough time." Hubert's mother slaved from morning till night striving to implant some music in the souls of dull girls; but the severe climate of the States proved too wearing at last, and the family, after six years' sojourn there, came to England. Mr. Herkomer was eight years old when his parents landed at Southampton and determined to settle in England. Taste had grown in the meanwhile, and a bare living could be got by artistic joiner's work and cheap music-teaching combined. At times the wanderers went back to Waal, but only to return to Southampton, where they settled down to the hard work of living and educating their son. First taught at his father's bench, young Herkomer used to help him to cook the dinner while his mother was trying to get through as many as sixteen miserably paid music-lessons in a day. When the boy could carve a little in wood, he was set to draw at the Southampton School of Art, and gained the bronze medal. Then the life of the Herkomers again shifted to Bavaria, and the young artist received invaluable instruction in drawing from the life from Professor Echter. Next came another spell of Southampton and training at South Kensington, followed by real practical work in drawing on wood for Dalziel. Work then began to come in, and the *Graphic* took numerous blocks. The second that Mr. Herkomer did for that newspaper was a rough draught of the "Last Muster," not painted till 1875, and a brilliant success at the Royal Academy and the subsequent Paris Exhibition.

During all this part of his career, Mr. Herkomer was subject to the "Walker fever," as it was then called—a disease for imitating one who was himself the least imitative of artists. The regular gradations were gone through from drawing on wood to water-colours, and thence to oils. In 1870 Mr. Herkomer exhibited "Hoeing"—very Walkeresque in treatment—since when he has produced a vast number of pictures, some of which are by no means of the type made popular by Walker. His great success at Paris, his early election to the Associateship of the Royal Academy, have contributed to stimulate his ambition and his industry to an extraordinary degree. Probably no man lives and breathes and thinks more exclusively in his art. A certain hesitation is felt in writing the last sentence, inasmuch as the doctrine that an artist should live for his art has been repeated overmuch of late. ut, as the French judge said to Dumas *père*, when he contrasted himself as a dramatic author with Corneille, "there are degrees." To live in London, Paris, or Rome, and devote oneself to art during daylight and to society at night, is a quite possible and enjoyable existence of honest work and intellectual relaxation; but this is not at all what Mr. Herkomer means by living in his art. As a member of the Royal Academy, he might have a pleasant time of it in the intervals of business; but, as a matter of fact, he rarely comes to London, and when not on flying visits to Wales or Bavaria, works by daylight and candlelight at his home at Bushey.

If he "who drives fat oxen should himself be fat," and an artist should live in an artistic house, Mr. Herkomer is certainly in the wrong box; for a box his dwelling at Bushey can be most strictly styled. His house is made up of a couple of cottages thrown together. Dyreham is a sight to make the artistic blood grow cold, and the hair to bristle on the æsthetic head. It is outwardly the most prosy of habitations. The very studio looks like a photographer's establishment, and the travelling hut like an ambulant Cheap Jack's. There is nothing poetic, nothing to suggest art, in the outer belongings of Mr. Herkomer. The garden, the solitary sheep—a model, unhappy beast—the plain old donkey, permitted to browse during his old age, all is comfortable-looking, human, pleasant, and home-like, but in no sense artistic. The house, too, is within easy distance of a railway station. All these surroundings go to prove that poetry, or at least that part of it which may be embodied by painter and engraver, is not dependent on æsthetic surroundings, and that although olive-green, relieved by sunflowers, may be necessary to dawdlers and lookers-on at the world of art, the real workmen need nothing of the kind.

Mr. Herkomer is of that type of large-eyed, long-haired men who not only are, but who appear to be, artists; and there is no affectation in this manner so far as he is concer ned. Trained in a hard school, and

specially earnest, he is all artist, striving and fighting to attain an ideal excellence. At one moment he makes such grand strokes as the portrait of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe or that of Mr. Ruskin, and toils on with water-colour. Presently he goes back to oil-colour, and produces a fine landscape. It is no light matter to paint in a moveable tent, with windows and other lights arranged artistically. It is at best a draughty habitation, only fit for youth and rapid circulation. Abroad, as at home, he works persistently at etching and engraving. Painting, it is known, cannot be conveniently done by candle-light—an excellent excuse for the indolence of many of the painters who cannot paint. Mr. Herkomer employs this valuable evening-time in drawing and engraving or etching, all of which operations can be perfectly performed by lamp-light. The method of employing the evening is not unknown to sundry workers on wood, but it is hardly approved by the "society artists" who love to tell you how they dined at Lady Tomnoddy's the other day. They forget, in telling this little story, that they are simply society show-people, and make a curious foil to the quiet men who sit in their studios and do their work. Of this class—artist, student, and engraver—Mr. Herkomer forms a distinguished member.—*World.*

THE UNION OF BENEFICES (LONDON) BILL.

A Bill has been introduced into the House of Lords by the Bishop of London to amend the Union of Benefices Act, 1860, by facilitating such union in the City of London, "due regard being had to the preservation of churches of architectural and historical interest." To carry the Act into effect, the second section provides for the nomination of seven Commissioners, to be chosen as follows:—The Queen, one; the Bishop of London, two; the Mayor and Corporation, one; the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, one; the President and Fellows of Sion College, one; and the other by the churchwardens of the City parishes in a manner prescribed by regulations to be made by the Bishop. These "City Benefices Commissioners," who are to hold office for seven years, and to be a body corporate, may appoint and remove a paid secretary, and employ such architects, actuaries, surveyors, &c., as they may think necessary. Their functions are to be:—

(*a*) To inquire into the ecclesiastical revenues of all or any of the benefices situated within the area of union as defined by this section; and

(*b*) To make schemes for uniting any two or more contiguous benefices or parts of benefices within such area as last aforesaid, and for forming out of any such union of benefices or parts of benefices a new benefice with such endowments as they may think expedient; and

(*c*) To make schemes for removing any such parish churches within the area of union as in the opinion of the Commissioners are not needed for the celebration of divine service, and for the sale or other appropriation of the materials and sites of such churches, and for the sale of any parsonage-houses attached to such churches; and

(*d*) To make schemes for the application to ecclesiastical purposes within the area of distribution as defined by this section of any surplus of ecclesiastical revenues arising from any such union as aforesaid of benefices, or from the sale of the materials and sites of any such churches, or from the sale of any such parsonage-houses.

(1) For the purpose of inquiring into the ecclesiastical revenues the Commissioners are to have all such powers or rights as are vested in the Charity Commissioners. The ecclesiastical revenues of churches to be pulled down are vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who shall have power to do and execute all such further acts and deeds, &c., as may be necessary to carry out any scheme.

(2) In any scheme for the union of benefices the Commissioners are to assign an income to the incumbent of the new benefice, with compensation to any person having a vested interest which may be injuriously affected by the scheme, and may, if they think it expedient, provide a stipend for a curate or curates, who, however, will not have a freehold. Such compensation may be the incumbency of one of the new benefices; or an annuity out of the revenues of the united benefices until preferment, and a supplementary payment if the value of the preferment is less than the annuity, provided that the income from both sources be not reduced to less than £500. If, however, a present incumbent of a benefice affected by a scheme of the Commissioners refuse to retire and to accept compensation, he shall be allowed to retain it, and the scheme shall not take effect till the next vacancy. Any City incumbent retiring under the Act shall continue to be a Fellow of Sion College, as at present, unless he accept preferment beyond the limits of the City. The Commissioners are to appropriate a single church within the area of the new benefice to be the parish church, are to provide a parsonage-house, and, if they think fit, lodgings for the curate or curates.

(3) In any scheme for the removal of a church, they may provide for the maintenance of the tower, and are to make provisions for keeping any churchyard or burial-ground appurtenant to such church in due order; but the sale or letting of any such ground is not authorised. All bodies buried in any church which is removed are to be reinterred in a consecrated churchyard or burial-ground appointed by the Bishop of the diocese, and until this is done no site of a removed church may be sold. On written application to the Commissioners, within a certain period, relatives of persons buried in such church may remove the remains. The painted windows, organs, bells, and furniture are to be moved to any of the churches left standing within the area of union, or to any of the new churches to be erected within the area of distribution. When a church has been removed the site is to be sold by public tender to the highest bidder, unless the Commissioners report to her Majesty in Council that such site or a portion of it ought to be appropriated to the improvement of the public thoroughfares.

(4) The surplus of ecclesiastical revenues may be applied to all or any of the following purposes:—

"(*a*) The purchase of buildings suitable for churches and parsonage-houses; and

"(*b*) The purchase of sites for churches and parsonage-houses, and the erection of new churches and parsonage-houses; and

"(*c*) The creation and endowment of new benefices; and

"(*d*) The better endowment of existing benefices."

(5) Where any rent-charge is created it may be directed to be paid to the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, and the amount is to be by them paid over to the incumbent or curate "to whom the same is made payable."

(6) Notice of any scheme for the application of any surplus is to be given to the Bishops of London, Rochester, and St. Albans, whose "communications" are to be considered by the Commissioners before preparing the draft of the scheme.

(7) Printed copies of the draft are to be sent to the incumbents, churchwardens, and patrons of the benefices to be united; where the parishioners have the presentation, service on the churchwardens will suffice. Any objections or suggestions made by such persons are to be considered, and the parties (if required) to be heard thereon. If a revised scheme is published, such persons may, within two months, petition Her Majesty in Council to withhold her assent. Any scheme is to take effect (if no date is specified) when approved by Order in Council. Supplementary schemes may be made in the same way.

(8) No vacancy occurring in a benefice within the area of union during the continuance of the powers of the Commission is to be filled up without their consent; but the period within which the right of presentation is, by law, to be exercised dates from such consent.

(9) The Commissioners are to report their proceedings yearly to one of the Secretaries of State, together with the schemes that have been approved, and an abstract of their accounts, such report to be laid before Parliament. The expenses incurred under the Act are to be defrayed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, whose funds are to be augmented from the produce of the sale of property ordered by any scheme under the Act; while the residue, after the discontinuance of the powers of the Commissioners and the completion of all the schemes approved, is to be applied by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, with the consent of the Bishop of London, in furtherance of the objects of the Act.

(10) The terms "benefice" and "ecclesiastical revenues" are thus defined:—

The term "benefice" shall mean and include rectory, vicarage, perpetual curacy, endowed public chapel, and preachership, readership, or office of assistant endowed priest, annexed, or reputed to be annexed, to any parish church or chapel:

The term "ecclesiastical revenues" shall mean the revenues and endowments of any benefice payable to the incumbent or other spiritual person, and shall not include revenues derived from property left for, or customarily applied to, the sustentation of fabrics or the maintenance of public worship."

The definition of "area of union" is "the area of the City of London and any benefice contiguous to any other benefice situate wholly or partly within the City of London;" and the "area of distribution" is:—

The City of London and all parishes and places for the time being under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board of Works appointed under the Metropolis Management Act, 1855, together with the parishes of Barking, East Ham, West Ham, Little Ilford, Low Layton, Walthamstow, Wanstead, St. Mary, Woodford, and Chingford, in the county of Essex.

THE FUTURE OF ITALIAN OPERA IN ENGLAND.

Italian has been said to be the universal language of vocalists in the same manner that French may be deemed the language of diplomacy. It is in the liquid vocabulary of the sunny peninsula that the choicest works of past masters in the art of music have been penned, and it is the mother tongue of the finest exponents of song. Throughout the musical world, more particularly the educated section of it, Italian Opera is popular, and will become more popular still as knowledge and art progress. The operatic market at present teems with artists who sing in Italian, and who are willing to give their services in any country where they will be appreciated. In England Italian Opera has been compared to an exotic which does not take kindly to the soil, and must be fostered by the genial heat of aristocratic favour or the fertilising agency of local gold. Surely, however, this is to a certain extent a libel. Italian Opera is certainly an exotic, but it is one of an old importation, but one which has never had the chance to take its growth kindly in consequence of frequent transplanting and tampering by different gardeners of various turns of thought. But, to drop the simile, the secret of its want of healthy growth has been the lack of unity amongst those who have sought to promote its welfare, and the presence of a persistent competition. Nothing in the form of art has suffered so much in this country from bigotry, jealousy, and avarice, as Italian Opera. The money that should have gone into one channel has been diverted into many. Talent that should have been encouraged has been neglected, and that which should have been disregarded has been fostered. Yet people complain that Italian Opera does not pay. How can it? The very people who should have made it pay have been fighting each other religiously ever since Pepys (as he informs us in his Diary) went "With (January 12th, 1667,) my Lord Brouncker to his house, there to hear some Italian musique, and here we met Tom Killigrew, Sir Robert Murray, and the Italian Signor Baptista (Battista Draghi), who hath prepared a play in Italian for the opera, which Sir T. Killigrew do intend to have up, and here he did sing some of the acts. . . . He tells me that he hath gone several times (eight or ten times, he tells me) hence to Rome to hear good musique, so much he loves it, though he never did sing or play a note. That he hath ever endeavoured in the late King's time and in this to introduce good musique, but he never could do it. There never have been any musique there better than ballads and songs, 'Hermitt Poore,' and 'Chevy Chase.'" Handel confesses that opposition was his ruin, and more modern history tells us that a similar fate attended Lumley.

Happily, the outlook is of a more roseate character, and lovers of Italian music will be pleased to hear that a movement is on foot for bringing it within the reach of all, and of establishing for it a great central home in England, where it may flourish and improve year by year, freed from the trammels of competition. This scheme aims at nothing short of the establishment of a gigantic monopoly for buying up the best talent and the interests of rival speculators who have heretofore fought against each other to the detriment of themselves and the public. A company, embracing many well-known members of the aristocracy, has been formed. It is one of a most ambitious nature, but its details have been well weighed by experts in such matters. The project aims at the amalgamation of the two Italian Operatic houses of London, and the concentration of this form of entertainment within the walls of Covent Garden. Practical men of business have taken the matter in hand, plans have been fully discussed, and the details of the prospectus well digested. Some of the highest personages of social life have expressed their acquiescence in the scheme, which has already been supported by the promise of large sums of money by intending shareholders. Another season has paved the way for the accomplishment of the views of those who believe amalgamation the best course to pursue in the interests of both enterprises. It is an open secret that the Italian Opera season last year at Her Majesty's Theatre was not a success, nor did Mr. Mapleson care to risk an Italian season in the autumn. It has been thought better that Mr. Mapleson, reinforced by certain members of the splendid troupe of Covent Garden, shall confine his energy to the United States, where his experience of American affairs will be at the service of the Royal Italian Opera Company, Covent Garden (Limited), such being the name of the new association. Freed from the limited competition of Her Majesty's Theatre, the whole staff of Italian Opera singers and the entire body of Italian opera-goers will be drawn towards Covent Garden, the prospectus of which house for the forthcoming season includes the names of the most attractive artists the Italian operatic stage can boast.

This alone would, in itself, appear a sufficiently attractive programme to commend it to the attention of the musical, art, and financial world. The promoters, however, have yet a further string to their bow. In addition to the Italian Opera season in the summer, confined to Covent Garden, where all the great artists will be assembled, the scheme will comprise tours in the provinces and in the United States, concerts, and every description of musical enterprise. In the first place the new Company will have possession of both Her Majesty's and Covent Garden. The Company will sublet Her Majesty's for German or English opera, for pantomime, ballet, or dramatic performances, and, indeed, for any species of entertainment other than Italian Opera. The rent of Her Majesty's, under the new lease granted last year by the ground lessees, is £5,000 a year, and although no profits on this sum are included in the estimate, it is probable that the lettings of the theatre would always exceed the amount of rent.

Some considerable amount of trouble has been taken by the promoters to compile a table of figures upon which their speculations are based. Upon only one occasion in England has Italian Opera been produced jointly by Messrs. Gye and Mapleson, and then in one season a sum of £22,000 was netted. It will be seen by the following table that the promoters have made their estimate of profits, chiefly by the light this affords. In the year 1869, the only year in which the combination of the two Italian Operas has ever yet been effected, which was at Covent Garden Theatre (as permanently secured by the present undertaking), the profits of the Italian Opera season alone (extending a little over three months) amounted to £22,000. Assuming, however, that two-thirds only of this sum were to be realised, say £15,000, the average rents for the winter months, at which Covent Garden Theatre lets, amount to £5,000, and this sum may be taken as what would be received, supposing the Company let the theatre, instead of working it, and receiving the extra profits themselves—£5,000. The alterations made last year in the rearrangement of seats and prices admit of an additional annual profit of £12,000. The average nightly letting of these seats is over two-thirds of their number; but, taking only two-thirds, the annual increase will amount to £8,000. The operatic and concert tours in the principal towns in Great Britain will produce, at a very low estimate—£5,000. A careful estimate has been made for the undertaking in America and the United States, and a net annual profit of upwards of £20,000 may be fairly expected. Assuming that about one-half only is realised—viz., £10,000—total, £43,000. Out of this sum £8,200 a year would be devoted to interest, redemption, and sinking fund. No sum, it will be noticed, has been allowed for the profits of the letting of Her Majesty's Theatre, which should be certainly worth consideration.

A large number of shares have already been taken up, and it is expected that the scheme will shortly be completely carried into effect.

The *Athenæum* says that Sir Alfred Lyall has in the press a volume of *Asiatic Studies, Religious and Social*. The subjects are the following:—Religion of an Indian province, origin of divine myths in India, influence upon some religious beliefs of a rise in morality, witchcraft and non-Christian religions, relations between the State and religion in China, formation of clans and castes, Rajput States in India, Islam in India, our religious policy in India, religious situation in India.

Mrs. Rowley Hill, wife of the Bishop of Sodor and Man, died on Thursday last. Sir Richard Gilpin, formerly M.P. for Bedfordshire, died on Saturday, aged 82. The deaths are also announced of Mr. Dante Gabriel Rossetti, the poet and artist; Lady Barry, widow of Sir C. Barry, the architect; and of Viscount Netterville, which title has become extinct.

Stained Glass. — The Royal establishment of Mayer and Co., of Munich, whose London show-rooms are at 149, New Bond-street, submit, free of charge, designs for any windows in contemplation. Their works are executed in accordance with the style of architecture, in very best and richest pot-metal glass, or, if desired, with enamel and perspective drawings like in the windows of the Cathedrals of London, Glasgow, Cologne, and others.

LAW PROCEEDINGS.

Joseph Newman and William Lanfers were on Wednesday committed for trial at the Sussex Assizes for attempting to steal the Countess of Winterton's jewels at Up Park, near Petersfield.

Two foreigners, named Jourdan and Kreuster, who were charged with issuing tickets to intending emigrants, not in the form provided by Act of Parliament, with intent to defraud, were brought up on remand at the Mansion House on Wednesday. Jourdan was fined fifty pounds, or three months' imprisonment; and the Lord Mayor directed that out of this money five pounds each should be paid to two men who had been defrauded. The other prisoner was remanded.

On Wednesday at Greenwich Police-court, Joseph G. Helling, of 384, New-cross-road, and John Fuller, of 70, St. Donatt's-road, were summoned by Henry William Sanders, churchwarden of St. James's, Hatcham—the former for maliciously damaging a certain notice of a vestry meeting, and the latter for being guilty of indecent behaviour in St. James's Church. In the case of Mr. Helling the facts were undisputed. The notice was put up on Sunday morning, April 2nd, stating that at the vestry meeting to be held on Easter Tuesday resolutions would be brought forward condemning the action of the vicar in continually resorting to the police-court in matters connected with the church, and protesting against the form of services conducted. The defendant, on entering the church, tore it down, and when told he had no right to do it, said he would take the responsibility of the act. Mr. Balguy ordered him to pay 2s., the cost of the summons. In the other case, Mr. Sanders said on Palm Sunday he told the vicar that he could not allow the children to bring large boughs of palm into the church. Just before the morning service, the witness stood at the door as the children entered. They all had small pieces of palm, but Mr. Winchester, the teacher, had a large bough. The witness told him he could not allow him to take that into church, whereupon the defendant interposed, telling Mr. Winchester to "hold it tight." An altercation ensued, and the defendant called him an "old stupid." On previous occasions the witness had remonstrated with Mr. Fuller for making grimaces at another member of the congregation, and the defendant called him an ass. Mr. Balguy held the application of the word stupid to the churchwarden to be "indecent" within the meaning of the Act. After some further discussion, defendant agreed to withdraw the word "stupid," which he admitted having used, and Mr. Sanders withdrew the summons on payment of 9s. costs.

THE COURT.

On Saturday evening the following gentlemen had the honour of being presented to the Queen:—Captain J. A. Fisher, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's ship *Inflexible*; Mr. Yeats Brown, British Consul at Genoa; and Lieutenant H. C. Ryder, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's ship *Cygnet*.

On Sunday morning Divine service was performed at the Châlet by the Rev. Canon Woodroffe in the presence of the Queen, Princess Beatrice, and the Royal Household.

In the afternoon the King and Queen of Saxony visited the Queen and took leave of Her Majesty.

The Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg arrived on Monday at Mentone and visited the Queen. Their Royal Highnesses remained to luncheon.

Before leaving Mentone the Queen presented 3,000f. to the poor, 1,500f. to the charitable institutions, a set of diamond studs to the mayor, a portrait of herself and the Princess Beatrice to the English Consul, a diamond pin to the Consul's son, a diamond ring to the local postmaster, a watch-chain to the station-master, a gold pencil-case and pin to the under station-master, and a ring to the commissaire of police.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice left Mentone on Wednesday. They arrived at Windsor Castle yesterday (Friday).

During Whitweek, when the Prince of Wales will visit Yarmouth as honorary colonel of the Prince of Wales's Norfolk Artillery Militia, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh will also pay a visit to the town in the yacht *Lively*. While in Yarmouth the Prince of Wales will open the new Townhall, and the Duke of Edinburgh, as Admiral Superintendent of Naval Reserves, will inspect the new coastguard station, &c. Their Royal Highnesses will be the guests during their stay of Mr. B. Nightingale, at Shadingfield Lodge.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh left London for Paris on Monday.

Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, on Friday last completed the 29th year of his age. The Duke remains at Mentone, but is recovering from the effects of his recent accident.

The *Lancet* says:—"Her Majesty the Queen has derived marked advantage from her visit to Mentone. Princess Beatrice has also been benefited by the change. Prince Leopold is progressing very favourably. The swelling of the knee subsides rapidly, the daily diminution being a quarter of an inch in its circumference. His Royal Highness drives out twice every day, and is in excellent health and spirits. Mentone has been very full this year, as was to be expected. The weather has been unusually fine during the past month, so that the season, which has been generally in advance of ordinary years, is now decidedly hot, the sun being in the middle of the day so powerful as to prove dangerous to persons unhabituated to exposure and unaccustomed to protect themselves. That being so, it is impossible to avoid a feeling of relief at receiving the intelligence of Her Majesty's return. We were glad to hear of the proposed Royal visit to a place of change and rest, but we felt, and at the time did not scruple to express, a certain amount of anxiety, looking to the defective sanitary condition of the district. The dangers which were feared have most happily been escaped, and there is good ground for confidence that the gain to Her Majesty's health has been considerable. Immediately on her return the Queen will encounter exceptional calls on her strength, incident to the marriage of Prince Leopold. That event will doubtless now be fixed for an early date, as his Royal Highness has practically recovered from the effects of his recent accident."

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA,

COVENT GARDEN, LIMITED.

CAPITAL £200,000 IN 19,900 ORDINARY SHARES OF £10 EACH,

AND 1,000 FOUNDERS' SHARES OF £1 EACH.

Of the Ordinary Shares, 4,000 have already been subscribed for at par, 2,900 are taken by the Vendors, together with the 1,000 Founders' Shares; and the remainder of the Ordinary Shares, viz., 13,000, are now offered for Subscription at par.

After payment of a cumulative 5 per cent. dividend on the Ordinary Shares, one-half of all surplus profits will be divided among the holders of the Ordinary Shares, and the remaining half among the holders of the Founders' Shares. The amounts payable in respect of the Ordinary Shares are as follows: £1 on Application, £4 on Allotment, £2 on June 1, 1882, £3 on July 1, 1882. Holders of 25 Shares and upwards will be entitled to a reduction of 20 or 10 per cent. on the prices of admission, as explained in paragraph 12.

DIRECTORS.

The Right Hon. the Earl of LATHOM, Chairman.
His Serene Highness Count GLEICHEN.
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W. M. EATON, Esq., 33, Old Broad-street.
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SECRETARY—F. S. VINCENT, Esq. OFFICES—ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, Covent Garden.

PROSPECTUS.

The death of the late Mr. Frederick Gye having necessitated the realisation and division of his estate amongst his family, this Company has been formed for the purpose of combining the two Italian Operas in London, and for purchasing from Mr. Gye's executors the Covent Garden Opera House and Floral Hall, with the whole of the plant and contents, and also the lease and goodwill of Her Majesty's Opera House, with scenery, costumes, music, furniture, &c., the whole of which latter the executors have agreed to purchase for the above purpose.

2. The Covent Garden Opera House, the Floral Hall adjoining, and the buildings in Hart-street (which together cover an area of about 58,086 square feet) are held on leases direct from his Grace the Duke of Bedford, K.G., for a term of which about 66 years are unexpired, at a ground rent of £1,216 12s. per annum, or at a rate of about 5d. per square foot, the present value of land being at least 1s. 6d. per square foot; and these leases, including all the boxes and seats, except the box belonging to the ground landlord, and the boxes and seats hereafter specified, together with the goodwill of the business, and the entire stock of music, scenery, dresses, armour, furniture, properties, and other plant for the mounting of the répertoire, which now comprises more than fifty operas, will be made over to the Company by the executors of the late Mr. Frederick Gye as a going concern.

3. A lease of Her Majesty's Theatre, commencing in last year (1881), was granted to the executors by the present Crown lessees, for the whole of their unexpired term under the Crown—viz. 30½ years—at an annual rental of £5,000, free from any existing rights, except the reservation of two boxes by the lessor. The average rents for which this theatre lets for the various periods of the year would be sufficient to pay the above annual rental, and insurance, taxes, &c., even should the Company merely sublet the Theatre, instead of using it themselves for any of the various entertainments for which such a Theatre is suitable.

The above lease is based upon the decision of the High Court of Justice in the action of Quilter *v.* Mapleson; but should that decision be reversed on appeal, the old lease held by Mr. Mapleson, which has about ten years to run (upon which a ground rent only of £1,934 6s. is payable), will be handed over to the Company, subject to twelve property boxes and twenty-six stalls, reserved from the lease.

The arrangements now published with regard to Her Majesty's Theatre will be carried on by the Company upon its formation.

4. The following is a description of the buildings and property and interests acquired by the Company, by which will be seen the independent security which the Shareholders have for their subscribed capital, irrespective of the annual profits of the business.

(A.)	The buildings known as Covent Garden Theatre and the Floral Hall attached, the storehouses in Hart-street, all built by the late Mr. F. Gye, together with the before-mentioned lease (66 years unexpired); the buildings taken at cost and the lease at 20 years' purchase of the valued rental, and after allowing for sinking fund for redemption of capital	£206,780	0 0
(B.)	The machinery, chandeliers, gas mains, fittings, water supply, and fire mains, heating apparatus, and other fittings, valued at	50,000	0 0
(C.)	The scenery, costumes, properties, music, armour, and accessories for the répertoire of over 50 operas, valued (after allowing for depreciation) at	75,000	0 0
(D.)	Scenery, costumes, properties, furniture, music, &c., at Her Majesty's Theatre ...	20,000	0 0
		£351,780	0 0
(E.)	In addition to the above, the Lease of Her Majesty's Theatre, and the Goodwill of both Theatres are estimated at	£60,000	0 0
(F.)	An agreement made with Mr. Mapleson, whereby he has agreed to give his exclusive services to the Company for a period of ten years, and to undertake to manage and conduct, on behalf of the company, the operatic business in the United States, which hitherto has been very profitable, and for which his great experience eminently fits him.		
(G.)	The benefit of all the agreements with artists, and others, which Messrs. Gye have acquired, together with all rights as to performance of operas, music, &c.		
(H.)	The benefit of an undertaking, by the Messrs Gye, not to carry on any operatic undertaking in opposition to the Company.		

In settling the terms of purchase, the Directors have been able to arrange that £80,000, part of the sum hitherto secured on Covent Garden Theatre, shall remain on mortgage at 4 per cent., and that the holders of three boxes and six stalls shall, subject to indemnity in respect of the said mortgage, retain their seats, in lieu of being bought out in common with the other seatholders. These few seats make no sensible difference in the average nightly takings of so large a theatre as Covent Garden, containing, as it does, 105 boxes and 500 orchestra stalls.

6. The mortgage is redeemable by the Company at any time.

7. The capital of the Company (viz. £200,000) is appropriated as follows, viz:—

(A.)	For the purchase of the whole of the above properties and interests in both Opera Houses (subject to the mortgage of £80,000, and to the above boxes and stalls—cash ...	£140,000	0 0
	Fully paid Ordinary Shares	29,000	0 0
	,, Founders' ,, ...	1,000	0 0
		£170,000	0 0
(B.)	Reserved for working capital by the Company	30,000	0 0
		£200,000	0 0

8. The Company will thus have the virtual control of Italian operatic performances in London, in all the principal towns in Great Britain and the United States, for which latter branch of the Company's business most important and advantageous arrangements are almost complete (thereby providing engagements for the artists nearly all the year round).

9. The Covent Garden Opera House was built with a view to the interior arrangements as to seats, &c., being easily adapted to the requirements of Pantomime, Concerts, and other like entertainments in the autumn and winter, during which seasons it lets on very advantageous terms.

10. The books of Covent Garden Opera have been thoroughly examined by Messrs. R. Mackay and Co., Chartered Accountants, of No. 3, Lothbury, and show that the average annual profit for the six years immediately preceding the death of the late Mr. Gye was upwards of £15,000 for that theatre alone, quite irrespective of the business done during those years at Her Majesty's Theatre, which would now have also to be taken into consideration. Mr. Gye's sudden death, occurring as it did shortly before the Opera Season of 1879, and other exceptional causes in the years 1879 and 1880, occasioned a falling off in the revenue of those two years, but during the year 1881 there was a large increase in the general receipts over the two above years, and the subscriptions for that season were the highest ever obtained.

11. The following estimate has been prepared by Mr. Gye of the profits of the business to be carried on by the Company, calculated after paying expenses and outgoings of every kind.

In the year 1869, the only year in which the combination of the two Italian Operas has ever yet been effected, which was at Covent Garden Theatre (as permanently secured by the present undertaking), the profits of the Italian Opera Season alone (extending a little over three months) amounted to £22,000.		
Assuming, however, that two-thirds only of this sum were to be realised, say	£15,000	0 0
The Average rents for the winter months at which Covent Garden Theatre lets, amount to £5,000, and this sum may be taken as what would be received, supposing the Company let the Theatre instead of working it, and receiving the extra profits themselves	5,000	0 0
The alterations made last year in the rearrangement of seats and prices admit of an additional annual profit of £12,000.		
The average nightly letting of these seats is over two-thirds of their number; but taking only two-thirds, the annual increase will amount to	8,000	0 0
The Operatic and Concert Tours in the principal Towns in Great Britain will produce, at a very low estimate	5,000	0 0
A careful estimate has been made for the undertaking in America and the United States, and a nett annual profit of upwards of £20,000 may be fairly expected. Assuming that about one-half only is realised, viz.:	10,000	0 0
	£43,000	0 0

No sum has been entered on account of profit from Her Majesty's Theatre, as the amount would depend on the particular uses to which the theatre might be put, as explained in paragraph 3.

From this profit of	£43,000	0 0
will first have to be paid:—		
Interest on £800,000 at 4 per cent.	£3,200	0 0
Allowance for the annual Redemption of Mortgage, say,	3,000	0 0
And for a Reserve and Sinking Fund, including depreciation of scenery, dresses, stock, and other plant, say	2,000	0 0
	8,200	0 0
Sum available for dividend	£34,800	0 0

Or over 11 per cent. on the Ordinary Share Capital of £199,000, after payment to the holders of the Founders' Shares of their proportion of the surplus profits.

12. Shareholders to the amount of 25 Shares and upwards will (subject to such regulations as shall from time to time be determined by the Board) be entitled to a deduction of 10 per cent. on the published prices of admission to all operatic performances and concerts given by the Company in this country and the United States, or elsewhere, as purchasers of tickets for any single entertainment, and to a deduction of 20 per cent. on the amount of their subscription, should they be subscribers for the London season, or for any series of performances or concerts, not less than twenty in number, out of London.

13. An agreement has been prepared, and will be entered into between Messrs. Gye and the Company, in which are recited the arrangements for acquiring the different interests comprised in the agreement.

14. There are various contracts connected with the ordinary business of the two houses, such as artists' engagements, rights of representations of operas, &c., all valuable to the Company, but the particulars of which cannot, it is obvious, be set out, and applicants for Shares must be considered as having waived this being done.

15. Mr. ERNEST GYE has agreed to act as Managing Director of the Company.

16. The above-mentioned Contracts and Agreements, the Accountants' Report, and the Estimates of the Value of the Properties, together with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, can be inspected at the Offices of the Solicitors.

If no allotment be made, the amount payable on application will be returned in full. Application for Shares to be made to the Bankers.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be had of the Bankers, or the Brokers, or at the Offices of the Company.

London, March, 1882.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

To the Directors of

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Gentlemen,—I hereby request you to reserve for and allot me Shares on the footing of the Prospectus dated March, 1882, and I hereby agree to accept the same or any less number of Shares that may be allotted to me, and to pay the Calls thereon from time to time, as required.

Name in full..... .....

Residence .....

Date ....1882.

Ordinary Signature .....

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, APRIL 15.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The QUEEN has returned from Mentone after her short and well-earned holiday, which has—as all loyal subjects will rejoice to hear—proved most beneficial to her, and the reports of her state of health are most satisfactory. Like many other of the beautiful spots which fringe the Mediterranean, Mentone has a somewhat equivocal reputation as far as sanitary arrangements are concerned; and although all precautions had been taken to minimise the risk, it is with a sense of relief and satisfaction that we find our beloved SOVEREIGN back among us without having suffered from any of the ills to which these supposed healthgiving resorts are heirs. She has enjoyed in the foreign realm where she has been sojourning the QUEEN'S weather, which has become proverbial in her own country; and while the grey skies and showers now prevalent may make her regret the sunny land which she has quitted, she will be consoled by the knowledge that they are at the present time good for her own country.

Mr. FORSTER has become an object of bitter attack to the advanced Liberals who, becoming painfully aware of the failure of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Irish policy, are questing about for some victim to sacrifice on his behalf. To hold Mr. GLADSTONE himself responsible for any such failure is a Tory atrocity, and would be little less criminal than to allow his colleagues a share of the credit for any success which may be achieved by the Administration of which he is the head. Truth to tell, there has not been much credit for them to quarrel over; and it is with the apportionment, or rather the shifting, of blame that the narrators of the Ministerial history for the past two years will have to deal. The *Daily News* and the *Pall Mall Gazette* having been brought at length to face the situation, and to recognise that it must be somebody's fault that matters have got to their present pass, and being unable to attribute it to Lord BEACONSFIELD'S memory that the Land Act has proved a failure and the Coercion Act inadequate, have now made up their minds that it is all Mr. FORSTER. A "new departure" is to be made, and, as a preliminary the IRISH SECRETARY is to be got rid off. This is absolutely necessary; for the policy which, if successful, would have been hailed as Mr. GLADSTONE'S, being unsuccessful, is stigmatised as Mr. FORSTER'S, and we shall no doubt be told that it is only the imperious dictation of the latter which made his mild and much-enduring chief embark on the course of policy which has alienated every class in Ireland. Apart from the ingratitude and unfairness of such treatment of a man who has honestly done his best so far as he has been allowed to do it, the outcry against the IRISH SECRETARY is based on the absurd assumption that the PRIME MINISTER has allowed him his own way in dealing with Ireland, and that all that is necessary for Mr. GLADSTONE to wash his hands of blame and responsibility, is that he should throw over Mr. FORSTER. But the *Fons et origo mali* cannot escape so easily. The errors which have been committed are those of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Administration, not only of the IRISH SECRETARY. It is, indeed, said in excuse for the latter by his friends, that he was held back and restrained from taking at an early stage those measures which he deemed absolutely necessary, so as not to hamper the Land Bill which stood in need of the momentum furnished by outrage and social revolution, and they point to the firmness which he has of late shown in the attempt to suppress the evil which had been so weakly and wickedly allowed to grow to a head. But if he really saw the necessity of taking more effective measures before his colleagues allowed their eyes to be opened to that necessity, his duty was plain. Our regret for the treatment which he is now experiencing at the hands of his friends, is diminished by the knowledge that his want of firmness and moral courage at the earlier stage of the revolution made him passively acquiesce in a course of which he well knew the danger and the criminality. That he should be abused when he acted with due vigour, though that vigour be too late, is a fitting retribution for his abstaining so to act in order to gratify his less far-seeing colleagues.

Mr. GLADSTONE'S letter to Mr. BROADHURST will not be encouraging to the more moderate Liberals, who hoped to be rewarded for their party loyalty by some mitigation of the rigidity of the simple majority closure. It would seem, by the way, that simple, rather than bare, is the adjective which ought to be employed to express the evident sense of the House as gathered from the vote of two hundred and one members as against two hundred. But we will not quarrel about words with one so skilful in logomachy, especially when the question is one of substance, not of words, and on the substance Mr. GLADSTONE professes himself as firm and unyielding as ever. With a curious disregard of the fact that, during the greater part of the debate on Mr. MARRIOTT'S amendment, the discussion turned upon the simple majority as opposed to the proportionate, and that it was only to catch the votes of such Liberals as Sir JOHN LUBBOCK that advantage was taken, almost at the last moment, of the erroneous wording of that amendment, Mr. GLADSTONE expresses a hope that his friends will suspend their judgment on the relative merits of a simple and of a proportionate majority till they hear the debate. There are already ample materials for forming such a judgment at the disposal of any of his friends who is allowed to do so for himself; and the only difficulty which they have hitherto experienced is in the refusal of the wire-puller to allow of such a process. We can really conceive that no very valuable addition to these materials can now be made after the exhaustive discussion of the subject which has already taken place. Fresh threats of resignation and of dissolution may, indeed, influence the candid mind of the Liberal member who, in obedience to Mr. GLADSTONE'S wishes, reserves his judgment; but on that question, simple or proportionate majority, most people must have already made up their minds, and the majority of the Government was, to a large extent, due to the impression skilfully produced at the last moment that, if only Mr. MARRIOTT were defeated, the Government were prepared to make concessions in the direction indicated by his amendment. That impression having served its purpose, it is now repudiated by Mr. GLADSTONE, and the simple majority closure is no longer regarded by him as a painful, though necessary, interference with the privileges of the House, but as a "great and "beneficial change." We also gather from the letter that the "strong safeguards" introduced—whatever they may be—were not introduced because they were thought really advisable, and because the Government shrank from a complete reversal of our Parliamentary system, but merely to establish the Ministerial claim to the gratitude of the Opposition for allowing any safeguards at all to be interposed between the House and their authority.

The news of Mr. PARNELL'S release was received with enthusiastic rioting in his own dominions, but with something very like panic in those of HER MAJESTY. It was hoped and feared that it marked that "new departure" of which we have heard so much of late from the Liberals who have awoke to the failure of the Land Act. But the exultation of the Land Leaguers, and the indignation of the loyal subjects, were alike moderated when it was announced that the release, instead of being absolute and unqualified, was only temporary and conditional. The arch-agitator had not, as it was feared, marched forth to liberty over the murdered body of Mrs. SMYTHE, but was liberated on parole for a week in order to attend the funeral of his sister's child. Thus the significance of the act was greatly diminished, whatever may be thought of its wisdom. For, though the popular hero has, as was to be expected from him, faithfully kept his word and avoided all occasions of exciting speech or demonstration, there is a difference between retaining such a man in prison and putting him back into it after he has once been let out; and the ten days, during which his liberation was to last, which will expire in the middle of next week, may bring about a good deal in the way of arrangement between the leader of the social revolution and the PRIME MINISTER, whose Midlothian utterances did so much to help on that revolution.

Favoured by the brilliant weather, and the presence of the most distinguished of Volunteer colonels, the annual Volunteer gathering on Easter Monday was a great success, and Portsmouth may congratulate itself on having scored in its competition with its rival Brighton. The train-service was on the whole well managed, though some defects and shortcomings were noticed which should have been avoided considering the full warning given to the officials of the London and South-Western Railway of the demands which would be made upon them. As to our citizen soldiers themselves, we have great pleasure in recording the favourable judgment passed upon them by the COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF through the medium of his new ADJUTANT-GENERAL. The "greater "steadiness under arms, and increased attention "to drill," which the Duke of CAMBRIDGE observes each time that he has the opportunity of reviewing large bodies of Volunteers are most gratifying to all friends of the movement, which, though it has suffered from the injudicious effusiveness of indiscriminating eulogists, has so much in it of which all Englishmen may be proud. It is, indeed, to be fervently hoped that we may never have occasion to test in actual warfare the efficiency of our Volunteer army, for it is only in the terrible case of an invasion that we should have to rely upon them for our defence. But the knowledge that in such a dire emergency, we have a large body of trained and disciplined men to supplement our scanty regular force cannot but affect the calculations of a possible invader. The larger the body, the better the discipline, the more effective the training, the greater will be the moral effect of the existence of such a force upon our enemies abroad. Field-days, such as that of last Monday, show that there is yet much to be learnt, and our examples of mimic war are perhaps worthy of the contemptuous criticism passed upon them by professional critics. But they keep up the interest of the Volunteers themselves in the movement; and the very "defects and absur-"dities" which keen professional observers may detect, and of which the more experienced of the Volunteers themselves were well aware, may give useful lessons what to avoid on future occasions of mimic warfare, while many of them would correct themselves in the presence of a real, not an imaginary, enemy.

The death of Mr. DANTE GABRIEL ROSSETTI, the most talented member of a talented family, must not pass without notice. As an artist, alike with the brush and with the pen, he has won high fame, though within a more limited circle of admirers than others with less claims in either way. He was one of the original band of Pre-Rafaellites, and adhered more firmly to the traditions of that school, though not to its excesses, than those who started on the same course with him. Owing to his repugnance to public exhibitions, his paintings are little familiar to the outside world; but we are glad to learn that the Fine Arts Club will afford an opportunity which none should neglect of making acquaintance with the rich colouring and poetic conception of some of his choicest works. His fame as a poet is more widespread, and the recent republication of his original volume of poems which had been for some time out of print, together with some important additions, especially in the way of ballads, has met with a very large sale, showing how general is the appreciation of the refinement and grace of his poetry, which was very much akin to his painting. "The "Blessed Damozel" is the piece on which his fame will mainly rest—a short but perfect work of a mystic and dreamy beauty. It is to be regretted that some of his other pieces should have treated of subjects better left untreated; and one sonnet in his earlier volume—fortunately and wisely not reproduced in the later edition—called forth at the time much well-merited criticism.

The great elephant has arrived in America and has been welcomed with enthusiasm both by his friends the fellow-members of BARNUM'S menagerie, and by the admiring spectators who have been worked up to a fitting state of "Jumbo" worship by the skilful advertisements of the accomplished showman and by the example of the English admirers of the huge earth-shaking beast. There is an amusing tone of spread-eagle about the announcements with which the curiosity of the New York people is stimulated, and we can hardly be surprised that a strict adherence to facts is not deemed altogether requisite. "The voice of united "Europe" may have been raised against the exportation; but it is rather hard on Mr. Justice CHITTY that it should be announced that "Jumbo" has been brought to America not only against that voice, but against the injunction of the law. The numerous admirers and friends of the animal on this side of the Atlantic will be glad to learn that he got over the voyage comfortably on the whole, though the loss of half a ton of flesh sounds rather bad. But Mr. BARNUM promises to bring him back to England in much better condition than he was when he received from the Baroness her parting bun.

The fate of the other object of international interest, the convict LAMSON, is not yet formally decided; but there is apparently little in the evidence which has arrived from America, as far as that evidence has been made public, to justify the extraordiuary interference of President ARTHUR on his behalf. We are now promised some more affidavits, and a

further postponement of the execution is requested pending their arrival. But it is to be desired, in the interests of society at large as opposed to that section of it with which it is an article of faith that every murderer is mad, that Sir William Harcourt should show some of that firmness which he can undoubtedly exercise on an emergency. Admitting that everything which is said to be capable of being proved on the prisoner's behalf is proved, there is yet, as we pointed out last week, nothing whatever to show that he was legally insane at the time when he committed the cruel act for which he is doomed to die. Some of the sympathy bestowed on him might well be extended to the memory of his victim, the poor weak and sickly boy by whose opportune death the criminal was to profit. If Dr. Lamson's eccentricities, and his habit of injecting morphia are to be admitted as a sufficient excuse for his murder of his brother-in-law, no one will be safe who has an eccentric relative with an interest in his death; and, reckless as may have been the prisoner's administration of aconitine in the Bucharest hospital, there is nothing to show that, after there administering it, he denied having done so, or tried to make out that it must have been done by someone else, or that the death of any of his patients would have been as profitable to him as that of his latest victim.

THE LIVERPOOL SPEECHES.

The Conservative leaders have been taking a leaf out of their adversaries' book, and are devoting the Easter recess to a vigorous political campaign in Lancashire. It is well that this should be so, and that the use of platform oratory should not be considered as an exclusive prerogative of one party only. It is, indeed, difficult for them to attain to the varied excellencies of the model stump-orator; and neither the exuberant verbosity nor the reckless indifference to results which characterised the Midlothian campaign can be reproduced by Mr. Gladstone's imitators. There are certain restraints to which those still engaged in practical politics have to submit, which were disregarded with much effect by that gentleman himself when he fought his way back to office by assuming the freedom from responsibility of a man who would never take office again. It might be worth Lord Salisbury's while to retire from public life for a few months, during which he might enjoy the same advantages of freedom of speech and indifference to the consequences of what he said, which stood Mr. Gladstone in such good stead during that memorable campaign. But, as this cannot be, and the exigencies of political life impose a curb on his utterances which he cannot so easily cast aside, as the present Prime Minister did during that period of freedom from responsibility of which he made, from his own point of view, such good use, we must content ourselves with a statesmanlike exposition of the situation, instead of a more striking display of political virulence. No doubt the temptation to "Give "it 'em hot," as he was urged to do by one of his audience, was a great one, and it was no want of power to do so which kept Lord Salisbury from responding to the invitation. One reason for the bitter hatred shown to him by his opponents in the Press—who see no harm in imputing motives to and adducing charges against him of the most discreditable character, while to breathe a word against Mr. Gladstone is little short of blasphemy—is the knowledge that he can hit hard when occasion requires it. There is a claim to a monopoly of the right to abuse as well as to a monopoly of political virtue put forth by Liberals so confidently and persistently, that weak-minded Conservatives are induced at length to acquiesce in both. So any attempt to carry the war into the enemy's camp is regarded with suspicion, and denounced. This delusion is ingeniously fostered by our opponents who profess horror at the employment of their own method against themselves as unwise or undignified. Conservatism is to be set up as a mark for Radical abuse; but it is unfitting that the flowers of rhetoric reserved by Radicals for Conservatives should be perverted from their accustomed use, and a plainspoken denunciation of Radicalism by a Conservative is characterised as a scandalous appeal to popular passion and a malignant outrage, or by some other equally forcible and elegant phrase.

Government by platform oratory is not indeed to our taste; but on those who have introduced it into the country must rest the responsibility for the unpleasing innovation. The condition under which political battles are fought has been changed; and, however unpalatable it may be to the Conservative leaders themselves, they can no longer afford to leave the arena to their enemies. They must descend into it, even if be an Hengler's Circus, as at Liverpool, and it will not do for them to sit with folded arms while their opponents are encouraging their followers by a liberal use of stump-oratory. The bodily presence of the leader of a party is more effective than a thousand newspaper articles; and if the leader is gifted like Lord Salisbury with a thorough confidence in his cause, and an energetic and eloquent manner of expressing that confidence, he is likely to inspire his hearers with no little share of it. Sir Stafford Northcote also shows signs of a livelier and a more vigorous style, and he has shaken off that memory of earlier days which has so often made the ex-Private Secretary defer to his quondam chief instead of remembering that they are now the opposed leaders of the two great parties in the State. The spell of fascination cast over him by Mr. Gladstone has been difficult to shake off; but we trust that Sir Stafford has now recognised the necessity of doing so. His reference to the *argumentum ab homine*—if we may use the expression—so freely employed on the Liberal side, was very effective, and his protest against it was one of the happiest hits of the day. We own that we are ourselves tired of being told,

> What a very grand old man
> This grand old man must be.

and are unable to accept the *sic volo sic jubeo* of the grand old man himself as a sufficient reason for acquiescence in everything which he demands—whether it be the Disestablishment of a Church, the admission of an Infidel to the House, the abolition of freedom of speech, or the violation of the rights of property. But we hardly expected Sir Stafford to own it so freely, and it shows the advantage which he has derived from Lord Salisbury's companionship on his Easter tour. A little more of that companionship will probably tend still further to develop the fighting instinct which is doubtless latent in the breast of the leader of the Lower House, as in that of every politician.

Moreover, the presence of the two leaders on the platform at Liverpool is ocular evidence to the Liverpool Conservatives of the falsehood of the reports of divided councils which are industriously spread by those who would, if they could, dissever the *virtus Scipiadæ* from the *mitis sapientia Lælii*, instead of allowing each to learn from the other. Nor is it only as affecting the leaders that this great political campaign must be regarded as both profitable and encouraging. The great gathering which listened to their speeches, and emphasised each telling point with hearty bursts of cheering, was mainly composed of Conservative working men—that class which it is the fashion of the Radicals to sneer at and to pooh-pooh. It would be, indeed, a sad thing for the country if the assumption in which the latter so freely indulge—that it is impossible for any working man to be a Conservative—had any foundation in fact. The stability of the institutions of the country, the maintenance of peace with honour, the greatness of England abroad, the desire that the prosperity of one class alone should not regulate our commercial policy, the sin of setting class against class, may be sneered at as the kind of epic common places of a Conservative orator. But, despite the facile sneer, we believe that these commonplace principles are as dear to many an English working-man as they are to others higher in the social scale, and gatherings such as those at Liverpool confirm us in this belief.

THE NEW RUSSIAN MINISTER.

Prince Gortschakoff has so often taken leave, yet has so often seemed loth to depart, that, notwithstanding his length of years and length of service, it was difficult to believe that he had really resigned until his successor was appointed. That successor is M. de Giers, and his nomination to the Russian Foreign Office is regarded both at Vienna and Berlin as of good omen for the maintenance of peace. He belongs to the Teutonic as opposed to the Sclavonic faction in Russian politics; and by raising him to occupy the place so long held by the veteran statesman, who during sixty-five years has rendered services to his Emperor and his country which, judged from the Russian point of view, are not unfitly described by his grateful master as "glorious," that master has given significant expression of his desire for peace. Some such expression was rendered necessary by the irritation caused by the Skobeleff incident, which was not appeased by the open rebukes and secret encouragements which the gallant but indiscreet conqueror of the Turcomans has received; and we must accept the appointment of M. de Giers as an emphatic repudiation by the Czar of the Pan-Slavonic policy which has been so urgently pressed upon his acceptance. The new Minister has been working under Prince Gortschakoff for some time, and has, indeed, owing to the feeble health and advanced age of his nominal chief, been the real director of the Russian Foreign Office since the accession of the present Czar. But the formal withdrawal of the veteran who has been nearly sixty years in the diplomatic service, and the definitive appointment of his late subordinate to the high post vacated by him, are of no little importance to the peace of Europe. The name of the late Foreign Minister was associated with an aggressive policy; and so long as he was even the nominal controller of of the Russian relations with the rest of Europe, Germany and Austria could not but feel that at any moment those relations might be rudely strained, as, indeed, they have been by the Skobeleff crusade on behalf of the Slavs. The name of M. de Giers is associated with a policy of peace abroad, while his personal popularity at Vienna and Berlin, and his friendship with Prince Bismarck will do much to facilitate amicable intercourse between Russia and her nearest neighbours. But, while all must acknowledge the good promise for the immediate future which the selection of M. de Giers rather than of General Ignatieff to succeed Prince Gortschakoff affords, it would not be well to insist too strongly upon the permanence of the prospect. The German Emperor is said to have exclaimed on hearing of the appointment, which was so acceptable an Easter egg to him, "Thank God, "the change of Ministers at St. Petersburg "will now enable us to expect a long peace." This saying may be merely one of those mythical utterances in which, even in the present day, the general opinion of the people is given in concrete form and put into the mouth of one of its leaders. For it certainly conveys the impression produced upon Germans in general who have not yet recovered the natural alarm aroused by General Skobeleff's deliberately incautious utterances. But whether it be *vero* or only *ben trovato*, it shows a somewhat too sanguine reliance on the effects of a nomination which may either have been made for the purpose of averting immediate suspicion and lulling the Teutons into a false security, or, even if it represents the present current of opinion at Gatschina, cannot prevent a sudden change of wind in that quarter. The first alternative is quite possible having regard to the astuteness for which Russian statesmen are so famous; and the old traditions of diplomacy are kept alive at St. Petersburg, though they have died out in most of the Chanceries of Europe. It must not be forgotten that the present Czar, before the tragedy which called him to the Throne, was credited with a warm sympathy for the Slavonic movement and a hardly less warm aversion to the Germanising influences which, from the days of Peter the Great downwards, have struggled for supremacy with the old Russian element. He is surrounded by many who share both feelings; for, as has been well pointed out by Mr. Gallenga in his very interesting book on Russia which we hope to notice at length next week, the contempt which used to be felt by the upper classes for everything that was Russian, has given place to an enthusiasm for Russia for the Russians. The growth of a national party in the Court itself, which was once so devoted to Germany, has been viewed with uneasiness by the Germans; and it is felt that the ties of kindred which once united the occupants of the two Thrones so closely would be of necessity weakened with each new generation. Alexander III. has hitherto adhered to the German alliance publicly, though his private patronage of General Skobeleff has thrown doubt on his public utterances. Is it quite impossible that, in like manner, his nomination of M. De Giers as a guarantee of his fidelity to that alliance is merely to cloak, not to thwart, his natural bias towards the Pan-Slavonic party?

It is, however, more probable that it has been made in all loyalty and sincerity of purpose, for the dread of Nihilist conspiracies would tend to draw their intended victim into closer alliance with other Sovereigns threatened with similar dangers; and when Revolution stalks abroad, a fellow-feeling among those against whom it directs its attacks, is the first and most natural product. The Philoslav Czarewitch may, by the exigencies of the case, have been converted, for the time at least, into the Czar with a cordial sympathy for his brother-Emperors William and Franz Josef, and may have been glad to give them this public testimony of his change of attitude. But, for the permanence of that change, we must rely upon the Czar's owl firmness, not on the presence of M. de Giers at the Foreign Office. Of a Russian Minister, yet more than of his official brethren in other countries, it is true that a breath unmakes him as a breath hath made. If his Imperial Master, in the enforced seclusion of Gatschina, should himself arrive at the opinion, or should be driven by his surroundings into the opinion that after all the best way of coping with the Nihilist conspiracy is by putting himself at the head of the National party, and that once again, as has before happened in the history of despotic Governments, foreign war is the safest outlet for domestic discontent, the supersession of M. De Giers by General Ignatieff would at any moment cut short the "long peace," the vision of which has been called up before the eyes of the aged Emperor by the appointment of the former. As far as we in England are concerned, we have no reason to love Prince Gortschakoff, who has always shown himself our opponent, and his greatest triumphs have been won over us, as when he succeeded in tearing up the Treaty of Paris and wrung from Mr. Gladstone an abandonment of the main fruit of the Crimean war. Nor have we the same reason as Germany to feel confidence in M. De Giers. Indeed, the rumour already prevails that the better understanding between the three Emperors, of which his appointment is supposed to be the symbol, is to be based on an arrangement by which Russia is to be set free to carry on her designs against Turkey. Such a result of the Russo-German alliance is indeed little likely so long as Prince Bismarck controls the policy of Germany, and retains the view of German interests which he has hitherto held. But it is an awkward and certainly a possible result of the *entente cordiale* of which M. de Giers is supposed to be the representative.

Reviews.

THE FRENCH CHURCH DURING THE REVOLUTION.*

This is a volume of absorbing interest, and its value is equal to the interest we feel as we read it. In it Mr. Jervis has both given us *multa* and *multum*—a harvest of facts which demand to be deeply pondered over by us, not only because we are naturally interested in what befel the Church in a neighbouring country, but also because of the clear note of warning it gives to us who, it may be, are drawing daily nearer to a similar conflict with the same forces of revolution which overturned altar and throne in France. Indeed, as we read page after page in the earlier part of this history we are struck with the similarity of measures urged on one hand, and resisted successfully or but too often timidly acquiesced in on the other hand, by French demagogues and French Conservatives, at the outset of the terrible revolution in that country at the close of the last century, with those measures which are being urged upon us now—nay, not merely the similarity of procedure on the part of revolutionists, but also the similarity in the motives of the agents of revolution. History is an old almanack, and is ever repeating its lessons. The circumstances under which we may be called upon before long to sustain the Constitution of England and to defend the Christianity dear to England may sometimes, indeed, differ from those which happened in France; but the principles of atheism and of "philosophical" liberalism are alike in both countries. Unbelief, indifferentism in matters of faith, specious schemes of ecclesiastical reform which thinly veil the projects of revolutionists, are, here as there, but the prelude, we fear, to scenes which may be in England as terrible as those in France. It is a mistake to suppose that the rough unskilled labour of our great towns, the dechristianised swarms of our manufacturing or commercial cities, are incapable of the excesses witnessed at Nantes, Lyons, or even in Paris, well-nigh a century ago, and the clear warning note which this volume gives out—not that it is the main purpose of Mr. Jervis in writing it—is, that plausible assaults on the Faith or on the Church as the pillar and ground of the Faith, if successful, end in excesses never contemplated at the first by the dupes nor even by the agents of a revolutionary movement.

A twofold lesson we may all learn from this history. Would that we learnt them practically! The mischief of party malevolence and blindness in political leaders, especially during times of public discontent, and the fact that those who support abuses are as responsible for the incidental consequence which follow upon their violent overthrow, as the men who assault these abuses.

Resuming his narrative of the fortunes of the French Church from the point at which he left it in his former volumes, Mr. Jervis comprehends in the present volume the history of that part of the Church during the eventful period between the years 1789 and 1815. At the time when the weak vacillating King summoned the States-General there was exasperation among a large part of the clergy at the injustice with which they were treated, and the gulf which yawned

* *The Gallican Church and the Revolution.* By the Rev. W. Henley Jervis.—London: Kegan Paul and Co., 1882.

between them and the wealthy and secularised members of the Episcopate. The members of the Jansenist party, smarting under a sense of the wrongs received from the Jesuits and the Court, were ready to act on what, doubtless, they believed to be right principles, but which were too often the suggestions of revenge. Both these active elements were at once arrayed against the old order. Add to these, the abuses of the Abbeys, of pluralities, of commendams which were so flagrant that attacks on those who profited by those abuses elicited general sympathy. This gave a momentum and an apparent reasonableness to the open and secret machinations of the revolutionists, who but for these auxiliaries might have been powerless for evil. There was little real sympathy between Camus and Grégoire, Mirabeau and Danton, but they laboured together, and, at least for a time, travelled along the same road. Then came the deeds of violence upon unpopular priests, upon popular priests, and assaults upon the discipline of the Church and upon the most solemn truths of the Faith, the reign of Reason, as blasphemy and sensuality were called, the supremacy of the guillotine, and the days of the Terror. Much of this began with attacks, some honest, others, however, flagrantly dishonest, directed against the Church of France. All these we have, at least in sketch, in these interesting pages. The struggle between the old Catholic clergy and the Constitutionals is well told by Mr. Jervis, who does full justice to the single-heartedness and courage of Grégoire, the Constitutional Bishop of Blois, who, when to be known as a priest was almost certain to lead to the scaffold, boldly sat in his episcopal dress in the Assembly, and there bravely declared the most unwelcome truths in the presence of the Robespierres and the Héberts of that body.

Though it is not within the scope of Mr. Jervis to detail the sufferings of the clergy in his history of the Church of France, yet he dwells at times upon the heroism with which even worldly prelates endured exile and poverty and the prospect of a violent death; and there are many interesting episodes which invest his pages with the interest which personal details of this kind invariably create. There was, indeed, another and a repulsive side in the avowals of atheism by several of the clergy, the apostacy of Bishops like Gobel of Lydda and Paris, the fierce partisan course of men like Camus and Lamourette, the Constitutional Bishop of Lyons, and the tortuous career of Cardinal Maury. But, taking these exceptional cases into full account, the heroism of the mass of the French priests equalled that of troops on the field of battle, or of sailors amid the wreck of their vessel with no prospect of succour. They died with calmness equal to that of the Girondist deputies, or the lighthearted queens of society in the Place de Grève. Indeed the calmness and heroism of most of the victims, lay and ecclesiastical, during the Reign of Terror—whatever their previous lives may have been—can hardly be exaggerated.

The volume, however, of Mr. Jervis deals with more important subjects than the demeanour of individuals. The most valuable portion of it is that in which he traces the course of the terrible Revolution from the first outcry for the removal of abuses from the Church to the overthrow of the Church as a national establishment, and the consequences to individual liberty. It is this which invests his volume with the character of a beacon to those threatened with the same dangers. For let it never be forgotten that few—very few—even of the most atrocious miscreants commenced their career with any prevision of the deeds which they were to stimulate, the wickedness in which they were to share. Had a prophet depicted to Maximilian Robespierre, at the commencement of his career, the scenes in which he would bear so large a part, he would indignantly and honestly have exclaimed, as one of old, "Is thy servant a "dog that he should do these things?" Events soon come to control men, especially when there is no fixed principle to render these men superior to the events. Men like the greatest miscreants of those days were the products of the Revolution more than they were, consciously at least, its directors. Few were those who at the outset but revolted at the atheist who from the pulpit proclaimed "There is no God, for he does not strike me dead when I defy him," just as now there are few men, we hope, even amidst the Baptist ministers of Northampton who endorse all the blasphemies of Mr. Bradlaugh. There is another lesson which this history ought to teach us. At the outset of the Revolution, urged on as it was by the terrible injustices of the past, the base practices and sensualism of the official guardians of the nation, the imbecility of the poor King, and the recklessness of his courtiers, a few, a handful of resolute far-seeing men of station, with no selfish object to gratify and a capacity for self-sacrifice, might in all human probability have arrested the course of the Revolution and have guided the shattered bark of the State into smooth waters. It was never a majority of the French people who ruled, but a minority. A still smaller minority might possibly have saved the nation from the evils without depriving them of the advantages of the Revolution. It is in times like this that the force of the individual will is tested, and proved, and triumphs. What might have happened if the constitution of Mirabeau had not yielded to the consequences of his sensualism at a critical moment, who will say? What might have been effected by a dozen men of the courage of the Abbé Grégoire, who will estimate? What a handful of far-seeing men of the personal character and wisdom of Emery might have done may be conjectured from the pages of Mr. Jervis. It is this which gives to his volume a great and permanent value, and invests it with dramatic interest. Its value lies chiefly in this, that in it he has collected with industry the records of the Church of France in the hours of her fiery trial; and has traced for the behoof of English readers, with a rare impartiality, the career of the subverters and defenders, wise and unwise, of order and religion in that country. He has, by doing this, conferred a benefit upon those who are already surrounded by some of the same difficulties, and are threatened with assaults on the faith and on ecclesiastical abuses similar to those which succeeded, not only in overthrowing the stately fabric of the French Church, but, alas! in shaking the trust of millions in the promises of Christianity.

Where all is important—where event depends upon event—it is hard to extract any portion of the narrative which shall give a fair, or at least an adequate idea of the ability of the writer, or of the practical value of his labours. We had marked for reprinting the striking contrast afforded by the scandalous and superfluous abjuration of Gobel, the Constitutional Bishop of Paris, and the courage of Grégoire, the Constitutional Bishop of Blois, in his avowal of his own faith at the moment of the apostasy of his brother Bishop; but we find it impossible to do justice to Mr. Jervis without making too large an extract from his pages. We must be content to refer the reader to this part of his narrative with the confidence that our judgment of the interest and importance of the volume will be endorsed by those of our readers who may turn to this account of the heavy trial of the French Church, and read of the worthiness of many, and, alas! of the unworthiness of some of her sons. In closing his volume we can but congratulate Mr. Jervis on the termination of his task, and thank him for the gift he has thereby made to his own Church.

NEW NOVELS.

The very far in the future Professor of Ancient Literature of the University of New Zealand, when he delivers a course of lectures on the *Opera Omnia*, or probably on the *Fragmenta quæ supersunt*, of Miss Braddon, will be not a little puzzled by the latest effort of that popular writer.* The novel now before us—we should be afraid to hazard even a guess at its numerical position in the complete list of the writer's productions—will be very difficult to classify, and the critical ingenuity which judges from internal evidence and plays such fantastic tricks with the chronology of the early writers, whether Greek, Roman, or Hebrew, will have an ample field of conjecture open to it. In the earlier part of the book we recoguise the Miss Braddon whom we have known of late years, and there is much which is pleasant and attractive in the pictures of the Cornish seacoast which she draws for us. But the innocent and homely life of the country maiden and her adopted mother, which so agreeably occupies the earlier chapters, is but one portion of the novel now under notice, and Christabel, the bright happy young girl whose heart goes out so completely to Angus Hamleigh, is a very different figure from the scheming and unscrupulous woman who sacrifices everything to her thirst for vengeance. The peaceful idyl of the earlier pages soon changes its character, and in the third volume we have the atmosphere of unhealthy excitement and sensational incident which reminds us of the Miss Braddon of our earlier days. Another link with the past is to be found in the elaborate setting of the furniture scenes, especially in the reckless gorgeousness of the actress's villa in St. John's-wood, to which we are introduced, when, under a combination of circumstances, impossible we should hope in real life, Angus Hamleigh's betrothed is brought face to face with his faithless mistress. We cannot help fancying that we recollect something very like the interview between Christabel and Stella Mayne, in an earlier work of fiction. Perhaps Miss Braddon has already utilised so striking a situation for a magazine story, and has since worked it out with more elaboration. In the present day we are always coming across old magazine friends reproduced by their authors in the more pretentious garb of a three-volume novel. Or perhaps it may be some other writer who has familiarized us with the outline of the story so powerfully filled up by Miss Braddon. However this may be, we cannot altogether approve of the situation itself, and must protest against the purity and innocence of Christabel being brought into contact with so contaminating an influence as that of the St. John's-wood beauty. The result of the interview between them is the repudiation of Angus by the pure woman who had bartered her maiden love for the poor residuum of his blighted affections. Whether it is of necessity the right and the obvious course for a woman to abandon a man whom she loves with all her heart and soul, because she finds that his past career will not bear inspection, and that he has wasted the best treasures of his early affection on a lawless and unworthy love, is, in the present condition of society, an open question. But it is not a question which it is healthy or profitable to discuss under the garb of fiction, and one of our complaints against Miss Braddon's book is the prominence which is thereby given to it. Christabel herself decides it with a characteristic impetuosity, being, however, helped to the decision by the adopted mother already mentioned, who has views of her own which make her hardly an impartial judge. For she is anxious that her own son, Leonard Tregonell, should succeed to the place in Christabel's affection left vacant by the discovery of Angus Hamleigh's frailty. Her scheme succeeds, though Leonard is a clownish and utterly unworthy specimen of humanity. But fate fights on her side. Angus is a consumptive hero—a novelty, we believe, in fiction, though consumptive heroines are common enough—and when he receives his letter of dismissal he has just been warned by his doctor that marriage would be a criminal act of folly on his part—a warning which is somewhat strangely enforced by reference to *Ecce Homo*. So he acquiesces rather calmly in the rupture of the engagement, and as a necessary consequence Christabel marries Leonard, merely to oblige his mother, Mrs. Tregonell, whose dying wish is to see the two whom she loved best in the world united. But like most marriages, contracted to oblige other people, the result is not satisfactory. Christabel finds that she is mated to a clown, and Leonard finds that the memory of Angus has by no means faded away from his wife's recollection. Then, with a morbid anxiety to discover grounds for jealousy, he invites Angus to stay at his house. Here begins the more strictly Miss Braddonish part of the novel, and as the attraction of this depends upon the plot, we will not lift the veil any further. We must own, however, that we have followed it out with considerable interest, and though the taste is sometimes questionable, no fault is to be found with the novel in the way of dulness. Some of the minor characters are also very amusing, as, for example, Jack Vandeleur's sisters, of whom he says with brotherly partiality, "a man might do worse than "marry one of them," and the person to whom the observation is made murmurs to himself, "Hardly, unless he married both." These young ladies are as æsthetic as their limited means allow them to be, and great is their contempt for the St. Aubyn girls, who thought sunflowers only fit for cottage gardens, and could see no beauty in single dahlias. "When I told them," says the eldest Miss Vandeleur, "we had thought of belonging to "the Browning Society, that eldest one asked me if "it was like the Birkbeck, and if we should be able "to buy a house rent-free by monthly instal-"ments." Another amusing character is Mrs. St. Aubyn, the mother of the two unæsthetic girls, who, when Mr. Faddie, a burlesqued Ritualist, appeals to the rubric, answers bluntly, "If you mean the small-print paragraphs in my "Prayer-Book, I never read 'em. I hope I know my way through the Church service without any help of that kind."

*The Revolt of Man** is one of those amusing burlesques with which we are so familiar in the pages of *Blackwood's Magazine*. We do not, indeed, recollect it as having made its appearance in "Ebony" before being presented to the world in its present form; but it has so decided a flavour of that school of literature that we are inclined to think that we must have overlooked it in its prior state of existence. The story brings before us the period, now we may hope in the far future, when the Transfer of Power marking the last and greatest step of civilisation had been brought about; the gradual substitution of women for men in the great offices; the spread of a new religion; the abolition of the monarchy; the introduction of pure theocracy, in which the ideal Perfect Woman takes the place of a personal Sovereign, and of the wise measures by which man's rough and rude strength was disciplined into obedience. A female Chancellor, a female Archbishop, a female Prime Minister had supplanted the members of the sterner sex who had in less enlightened times held these high offices. The latter is an imperious and elderly personage, the Duchess of Dunstanburgh, who, having buried three husbands, had her eye on Lord Chester, a youthful ward in Chancery, to supply the vacant place. She thus is the unconscious cause of that revolt of man which forms the subject of the present volume, for the intended victim is by no means prepared to acquiesce passively in the happiness which is to be thus thrust upon him. Indeed, it is probable that the males who were relieved of all active exertion, which was transferred to the other sex, might have borne patiently enough their changed condition had it not been for the custom, supposed to have the sanction of the new religion, which compelled young men to marry women who were unsuitable and distasteful to them by reason of age, temper, and other incompatibility. The abolition of the Lower House, and the transfer of all authority to the House of Peeresses, the terrible penalties inflicted on wife-beaters, who were regarded as a kind of atheists, the modest retirement and the graceful obscurity to which the interesting young males were doomed, could hardly have afforded so powerful an incentive to revolt as the compulsory marriage system. In Lord Chester's case, it was doubly hard, as he not only felt no joy in the prospect of his matrimonial alliance with the exalted lady in question, and of ultimately lying beside his three predecessors in her gorgeous mausoleum, but had also given his heart in the way that a modest and retiring young man in those days ought not to have given it, to a younger and a fairer rival of the Duchess. This rival was no other than the Countess of Carlyon, the late Home Secretary, and the leader of the Opposition to the Duchess in the House of Ladies. When that august body had to consider what was to be done after Lord Chester had raised the standard of revolt, Lady Carlyon, as became the leader of the Opposition, protested vigorously on behalf of the unwilling bridegroom, and her protest against the prevalent system was the signal for a frightful scene of disorder, when "all Peeresses with husbands "younger than themselves screamed on one side and "the younger Peeresses on the other." In the end Lord Chester is restored to his hereditary rights and marries the ex-Home Secretary who acquiesces gladly enough in the result of the revolt of man. As may be gathered from this brief sketch there is a good deal which is very amusing in this *jeu d'esprit*, but it is a little bit too long drawn out. A squib of this kind should be confined within the limits of a pamphlet or a magazine article, and not occupy a whole volume. The elaborate working out of the joke is somewhat wearisome, and that part of it which deals with the change of religion is especially open to such a charge.

* *Mount Royal.* By the Author of *Lady Audley's Secret.* In Three Vols.—London: J. and R. Maxwell, 1882.

* *The Revolt of Man.* In One Vol.—Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood and Sons, 1882.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

The *Complete Guide to the Game of Chess*, just published by Messrs. Griffith and Farran, has been compiled by Mr. Meyer, who has had considerable experience as the Chess editor of various periodicals, both British and foreign—partly from his own practical experience of the noble game, partly from correspondence with other players in Europe, America, and Australia, and partly from books and articles published in all the various languages of the different countries where it is studied. His endeavour, which has been carried out with much success, has been to supply a guide to Chess, beginning with the most elementary instructions and carried on to the most elaborate problems. The most ordinary openings and the most difficult mates are alike contained in it; and Mr. Meyer also gives a good deal of curious information as to the history of the game, its literature, and the peculiar terms employed in different countries. We regret that he should not have adopted the ordinary sytem of notation used in English books, which is, as he acknowledges, quite sufficient for games, though he does not approve of it for problems. He considers that something more concise is required, and accordingly, treating the horizontal squares as rows, the vertical as files, he describes the former by the numbers 1 to 8, the latter by the letters A to H. The men are also distinguished by the letters K to P, which he explains King, Lady, Queen, Monument, Overleaper, Pawn. Accordingly, to take for example, Black's second move in the Queen's Gambit, which we should ordinarily describe as Kt. to 2 B 3rd, it is with him O. c6. The new method in unquestionably shorter, but by no means so easy to be comprehended of the people; and we think that, in a book intended for English readers, it would have been better to have adhered to the more intelligible notation. This is, however, the only criticism we have to make; and it is probable that the compiler could not have given so much variety as he has done had he been compelled to adopt the old and more lengthy system. As it is, the Chess student, at whatever stage of study he may be, will find much that is useful to him in this very complete guide, and he will do well to try his hand at the very numerous games and problems before turning to the solutions of them given at the end of the volume.

Yet another edition—the forty-fifth!!—of De Fivas's *Grammaire des Grammaires* has been published by Messrs. Crosby Lockwood and Co. It is distinguished from its immediate predecessor by the addition of an appendix treating of the history and etymology of the French language, which, with other additional matter, has increased the size of the book by upwards of 120 pages, but without any increase of price.

Under the title *Words of Consolation for Friends of Love and of Truth* (Nisbet) Lieutenant Greville Moore has translated the *Aphorisms of Lavater*—a small book with short sentences of winged words, some of which will become household words, and all of which are worth naturalising amongst us.

A new year-book which appeals to popular support, as it possesses much which will be of popular interest, is the *Englishwoman's Year-Book* (Hatchards)—a directory to all institutions existing for the benefit of women and children. This was a year-book much wanted; and as we turn over the pages of the volume before us, the only wonder is that it has not appeared long before. It is a very useful compilation, and we hope it may obtain such a sale as will encourage the editor to publish it yearly.

From the Far West, or from territory and a city which were the Far West a few years ago, Chicago, we have received *An Almanack and Calendar for* 1882 (E. and J. B. Young, New York), very full of information on the American Church, and containing a directory of the clergy of the Church in the United States. This is its speciality; but it includes also notices and statistics of the Church in the colonies of Great Britain and other useful information as to Church and State.

The Confessions of a Medium (Griffith and Farran) is the title of a very remarkable book, which, if we had some satisfactory guarantee of its authenticity, would be most valuable. It professes to be a record of the actual experiences of a professed medium, who, beginning with a strong genuine belief in spiritualism, has his eyes gradually opened to the system of fraud and deceit in which he was at first an unconscious and afterwards a conscious participator. He does not give the real names and addresses of those whom he has deluded, explaining his motive in not doing so to be simply in order to veil from an unpleasant curiosity people at whose hands he had received courtesy and hospitality; but this concealment naturally damages the credit of his revelations. If they be indeed true, the most inveterate believer in spiritualism might well find his faith shaken. The means of producing the various manifesta-

tions are fully described, and redound more to the credit of the mediums as conjurors than to the powers of observation of those whom they make their dupes. The author's own acquiescence in such a course of deception is explained by his gradual introduction to it, and for a time he was as much taken in as his audience, though by degrees his instructors revealed the secrets of the cabinet and the arts of materialising. We do not say that the instructions given are sufficient to enable any amateur to reproduce the startling effects of a well-managed *séance*, and like written descriptions of ordinary conjuring tricks they would be difficult to carry into effect without a great deal of practice and a facility in sleight of hand. But the writer professes to explain all the more remarkable results arrived at by the alleged aid of the spirits, and the *exposé* is certainly very curious and interesting.

Madeline, by Mrs. William Olding (Hatchards), is in the main a plea for "earth's poor fallen "daughters." But while acknowledging the large-hearted sympathy for them which pervades it, we must own that the writer's intentions are better than the manner in which they have been carried out. Mrs. Olding is unfortunately gifted with an exuberant verbosity, and also with a well-filled commonplace book. Her characters all talk and write after the same fashion, and that a very diffuse and not altogether natural one. They are fond of interlarding their conversation with quotations painfully and conscientiously acknowledged by the author in her foot-notes at the bottom of her pages. There is a somewhat over-scrupulosity in adding some of these notes, as for example, when the observation of the heroine, that she was "one who loved not wisely but too "well," is carefully acknowledged as taken from Shakespeare. With a refreshing *naïveté* Mrs. Olding, after crowding her pages with such foot-notes, confesses in a final note her "indebtedness "among the poets to Tennyson, Pope, Crabbe, "Willis, Shelley, Milton, and Mrs. Browning; "among the dramatists to Shakespeare, Sheridan "Knowles, Rowe, and Robert Browning; among "the prose-writers to Dickens, Bushnell, Cox, "Wardlaw, Mdme. de Gaspian, Victor Hugo, "and Goldsmith." But these borrowed jewels hardly make up for the deficiencies of that portion of the book, for which the author must herself be held responsible. The plot is somewhat confused; and any sympathy which we may feel for the heroine, who was so cruelly betrayed by Oswald Thorwaldsen, is diminished by her ready acceptance of him when he once more returns to her after the death of the wife, for whom he had deserted her, after entrapping her into a false marriage. With a confusion of ideas which would bespeak the feminine authorship of the book even if anonymous, the poor woman thus deserted is regarded as being on the same footing as those of the other characters who have deliberately gone astray, with no pretence of marriage to excuse their fall. Among these is the mysterious daughter of a yet more mysterious personage, who figures as the Earl of Reichenbach, and lives in the "ancestral hall of the Reichenbachs," situate on the "Bernese Jura"!! Where the Bernese Jura can be is a problem to be solved by the geographer. How an English Earl can have taken his title from a castle in that locality, "the home of a "thousand Reichenbachs," is a problem to be solved by Sir Bernard Burke.

Under the title of *Classic Tales*, Messrs. George Bell and Sons have reprinted four celebrated works of fiction, and in each case the endeavour has been to collate all the best early editions without exclusively following any one in particular. The authors selected are Johnson and Goldsmith, Swift and Sterne, and it is probably the first time that *Rasselas* and *Gulliver*, *The Vicar of Wakefield* and *The Sentimental Journey* have been brought together in a single volume. We almost regret that the unhealthy and corrupting sentimentality of Yorick should have been thus reproduced side by side with the respectable if dreary Prince of Abyssinia, with the ever-charming Dr. Primrose, and with the less repulsive, because more outspoken, cynicism of the recorder of the adventures of Captain Lemuel Gulliver. At the same time it cannot be doubted that *The Sentimental Journey* has established its right to rank among English classics, and it is too late to challenge the verdict which could only be set aside if a new trial were granted by some literary Court of Appeal.

In the present volume of *English Men of Letters* (Macmillan), we have the *Life of Charles Lamb*, written in a congenial spirit and with indications of the same affectionate regard which was felt for him by his contemporaries of all schools. Southey, and Wordsworth, and Coleridge, as well as Shelley, Hazlitt, and Leigh Hunt were alike attached to him. Nothing truer was ever said of Lamb than was said by Southey and quoted by his present biographer, "There are some reputa-"tions which will not keep; but Lamb's is not of "that kind. His memory will retain its fragrance "as long as the best spice that ever was expended "upon one of the Pharaohs." As the result shows, the biography could have been placed in no better hands than in those of Mr. Ainger; and we are obliged to him for a charming sympathising biography, not indeed concealing the weakness which was the bane of his quiet life of self-sacrifice, but bringing out the gentle nobleness which marked him, amid great trials. From Charles Lamb to *Bentley* is more than "a sabbath-day "journey." The quaint nervous essayist of our days had little indeed in common with the "great "scholar and critic" who adorned the beginning of the seventeenth century. This fact is in itself a testimony to the wideness of the range included in the lives of these *English Men of Letters*. Mr. Jebb has told us all we need to know of Bentley, his literary labours, his unselfish self-sufficiency, and the largeness of our indebtedness to that vast and accurate learning, which renders him confessedly the greatest critic of his own days—almost, indeed, of all days. He has told us all we need to know of his labours and of his controversies, and has told that all well. The general reader will be able to understand the Homeric giant of Trinity College all the better for this biography.

We have so recently noticed the volume of the *Memorials of Charles Petit M'Ilvaine, late Bishop of Ohio*, by Carus Carey (Eliot Stock), that little is needed from us beyond noting—the gratifying fact to an author—that a second edition of these memorials has been already called for, and that the writer has taken advantage of this to add a list of the Bishop's pamphlets and other works, together with extracts from the sermons and miscellaneous writings of Bishop M'Ilvaine on some of the theological and other controversies of the present day.

It was the lot of St. Cyril of Alexandria to live in a controversial age, and to be plunged into controversies on the deepest mysteries of theology, and yet it is rather the Commentaries of St. Cyril on the Scriptures than his professedly controversial treatises that have preserved his name to us. In a forthcoming volume of the English translation of *The Library of the Fathers* we are promised the completion of his Commentary on St. John—a valuable addition to our store of dogmatic theology. In the present instalment of his *Select Works* we have, for first time in an English dress, his tracts *On the Incarnation against Nestorius* (Parker), with a valuable introduction—in part from the pen of the late Philip Pusey, in part from the pen of his venerable father, who, octogenarian as he is, continues his quiet work and enriches English theology with the fruit of his wide learning and industry. To look back, indeed, upon the long list of volumes in this *Library*, is to look upon a silent witness of the course of a life of unwearied labour and of steady unswerving loyalty to the Church of which he is a minister. We are thankful that, weak as for several years his health was, he is still spared to us, and that he is able to add to the many obligations which the Church owes to him. That in all things we may not agree with him deducts nothing from our sense of the obligation which we owe him—the residuum, in which we do agree with him, is enough to warrant our deep gratitude. In the long introduction to this volume Dr. Pusey guides us through the thorny mazes of the Nestorian controversy, and points out the opposition of the teaching of Nestorius to the central Catholic truth of the Incarnation of the Second Person in the Ever-blessed Trinity. Its clear statement of revealed truths on this mysterious subject makes the book one of great value, especially at a moment when the students of theology are tempted to substitute want of knowledge and vague generalisations and sentimentalism for doctrines which appeal to the intellect and are fruitful in comfort to every Christian and lie at the very foundation of all firm and masculine belief.

Correspondence.

LEGALISING INCEST.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—A Bill for legalising Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister is to be again brought forward after Easter, and seeing that few or no letters have appeared against it in the newspapers, I fear it will be concluded that it is a matter of general indifference; yet I believe the fact to be very much the reverse, and that, at all events, the large upper-middle class view the proposed change with alarm and detestation; but, belonging to a quiet unobtrusive set, and still more for want of organisation, their voice is not heard; and if allowed to do so, I should be thankful to say a few words on their behalf. No class will be so affected by the proposed new law as the upper-middle—below that, the sisters-in-law are engaged in seeking their own living, and are but little known to their sister's husband, who is not rich enough to have many visitors—the alteration, therefore, would affect them very little; but with the rank above them it is quite otherwise. There are no more frequent visitors than the wife's sisters; it is a common case for them to live with her if they have no home of their own. If she dies they often take her place and make the best substitute for the lost mother; but if this Bill passes all this must cease, unless they choose to marry their brother-in-law! How horrible the mere thought of it would be to nearly all, as I believe, of them I cannot express. They have felt for him entirely as sisters, and with sisters' ease and familiarity they could be with him, and the change to a possible lover would fill them with a sickening repulsion. And for what is this great change to be made? Merely to enable a very few out of the whole population to gratify the lawless desires which they never ought to have entertained. There is not the slightest hardship in a man's being unable to marry his wife's sister when there are so many more women to be had; and those who are now wishing to do so have indulged their sinful passion when it was as much forbidden by law as to marry mothers-in-law, or brothers' wives. And because they have done this, all the large majority who have no such wish are to have their social life entirely revolutionised. Surely, this is not following the favourite theory of benefiting the greatest number! Of course, everyone for or against this Bill knows it is only the beginning of the end of all relationship by marriage, and the disconsolate widower will soon be allowed to marry his mother-in-law and the rest of her daughters in succession, or his brother's widow, who may also be his wife's sister. Can it be worth while to cause such a shock to our moral principles for so worthless an object?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
"AN UPPER MIDDLE-CLASS SISTER."

THE ALPINE TOURISTS.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—The enclosed cutting just received from a correspondent at Christchurch, New Zealand, will be acceptable to those of your readers who, like myself, take an interest in mountain-climbing.—Yours faithfully,
E. W. URQUHART.

Easter Monday.

In a letter from Mr. Green, the Alpine explorer, he says that after fourteen hours' labour they managed to cross the moraine of the Tasman Glacier and reach the ice. None of them had ever seen such a moraine before. They had a clear view of the three approaches to Mount Cook, and found two of them impracticable. They intend to try the northern one, in order to reach which they will have to cross some of the glaciers between it and Mount Tasman. They expect such hard work that Mr. Green's companion, an amateur at Alpine climbing, has thought it better to relinquish it and to return. The Swiss guides have the impression that there is more moraine matter on the Tasman glaciers than on all the Swiss glaciers put together, and they say that one of the finest Alpine scenes they have witnessed is half-way up the glacier; in fact, nothing in Switzerland can compare with it. They consider the moraine the most difficult one they have ever ascended.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. W. H. Barlow, Principal of Church Missionary College, Islington, to Vicarage of St. James's, Clapham.

Rev. C. B. Bennett, Vicar of St. Peter's, to Chaplaincy of the Hereford Union Workhouse.

Rev. T. Blundun, Curate of Newton Ferrers, to Vicarage of Brampford Speke-with-Cowley. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. C. Burrough, Curate of Clun, to Rectory of Eaton Bishop.

Rev. W. W. Burton-Phillipson, to Vicarage of Bureydam.

Rev. H. J. Crockford, to Curacy of Buckland Dinham.

Rev. E. C. Cure, to be Prebendary of Finsbury in St. Paul's Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop of London.

Rev. H. L. E. Deck, Curate of St. Stephen's, Hull, to Vicarage of St. Stephen's, Hull.

Rev. J. Donne, Curate of Biggleswade, to Vicarage of Welland. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

Rev. R. L. Giveen, Curate of St. James-the-Less, Westminster, to Vicarage of St. Mark, Clerkenwell. Patron the Bishop of London.

Rev. J. Green, to Chaplaincy of Stow-on-the-Wold Workhouse.

Rev. W. W. Herringham, to be Assistant-Inspector of Schools for the district of Wivelscombe, Deanery of Dunster.

Rev. J. B. D. Hopgood, to Vicarage of Aslacton, Long Stratton. Patron, the Rev. J. G. Curtler.

Rev. W. B. Humphrey, to Perpetual Curacy of Mollington, Oxon. Patron, the Bishop of Oxford.

Rev. W. K. Marshall, Vicar of Wragby, to Rectory of Holton Beckering.

Rev. W. R. Lawrence, Rector of Eaton Bishop, to Vicarage of Brinsop.

Rev. R. T. H. Lucas, to Rectory of Tasley.

Rev. S. Pascoe, Curate of St. Paul's, Truro, to Rectory of Virginstowe. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. F. Pocock, to be Minister of Portland Chapel, Bath.

Rev. T. Shakleton, to be Minor Canon of Hereford Cathedral.

Rev. G. H. Squire, Rector of Sunningwell, Berks; to be Chaplain to the High Sheriff of the County of Glamorgan.

Rev. J. H. Townsend, to Vicarage of Hope-under-Dinmore. Patron, Mr. J. H. Arkwright.

Rev. F. M. Williams, to Perpetual Curacy of Knowbury, in Ludlow.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF WORCESTER:—Revs. H. W. Cooper, to New Millverton; L. S. Plowman, to Inkberrow; R. W. Taylor, to Hartlebury.

OBITUARY.

March 30, the Rev. John Pickford, Vicar of Toller Fratrum-cum-Wynford Eagle, aged 63.

April 6, at Brighton, Esther, widow of the Rev. Ridley H. Herschell.

April 6, at San Remo, of paralysis, the Most Rev. Frederic Barker, D.D., Bishop of Sydney, and Metropolitan of Australia, aged 74.

April 6, at the Vicarage, Gillingham, Dorset, the Rev. Henry Deane, B.C.L., Canon of Salisbury, and for 50 years Vicar of Gillingham, aged 82.

March 6, at Buenos Ayres, suddenly, of heart disease, William Waldegrave, third son of the late Rev. W. K. Sweetland, Vicar of Cornworthy, S. Devon, aged 33.

April 7, at Greenstead Rectory, Colchester, M. Seaman, D.D., aged 84, 33 years rector.

April 7, at 4, Brighton-terrace, Bray, Ireland, of typhoid fever, the Rev. Julius Percy Glanville, aged 29 years.

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGIATE.

OXFORD.

In a congregation held on Wednesday, being the first day of Easter Term, the following degrees were conferred:—

M.A.—J. Joseph, Exeter College; W. Birch, W. Pope, and J. Watkins, New College; W. Brooke, Magdalen; A. Gibson and J. Hamilton, Corpus; W. Hoyle, Christ Church; W. Fanshawe and C. Harris, Trinity; J. Roberts, T. Watkins, C. Williams, and C. Windle, Worcester; H. Pooley and C. Richards, Keble.

B.A.—J. Hamilton, Balliol; J. Lawrence, Merton; — Burrows, Hertford.

A convocation was held on Wednesday, at which the Proctors, Messrs. Jackson of Hertford, and Heberden of Brasenose College, laid down their office, and their successors, the Rev. H. Scott Holland, senior student and tutor of Christ Church, and Mr. A. L. Smith, late fellow of Trinity College, now tutor of Balliol, and nominated by that society as Proctor, were installed in their place. The outgoing Senior Proctor, according to custom, reviewed the events of his year of office in a Latin speech, announcing, among other things, the completion of the new schools. He paid a tribute to the memory of Dr. Leighton, Mr. Wilson, Mr. H. O. Coxe, and Professors Rolleston and Green, and welcomed their successors. To the list of losses he specially added that of Mr. Simonds and the late Dean of Westminster. Of the works issuing from the Press he named in particular the new edition of Professor Jowett's "Plato and Thucydides," the "Ibis" of Mr. Robertson Ellis, and the Revised English New Testament. As regarded the condition of the University, his report was, on the whole, favourable, but with a reflection upon the immorality to which lodging-houses gave scope. On the conclusion of his address the new Proctors were admitted to office by the Vice-Chancellor; the Senior Proctor in turn nominated as pro-Proctors Messrs. Payne Smith, senior student of Christ's Church, and Maude, fellow of Hertford College; while the Junior Proctor nominated Mr. Paravicini, fellow of Balliol, and Mr. Arthur Johnson, of All Souls' College.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE

The Archbishop of Canterbury, who is staying at Terre Blanche, Pégomas, is expected at Lambeth Palace about the 20th inst.

Archdeacon Holbech intends holding his visitations at Birmingham, Coventry, and Southam, on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of next month.

Mr. Hubbard, M.P., in a letter to the *Times*, says:

The reply of the Prime Minister to my inquiry touching the Rev. S. F. Green last Tuesday deserves attention on two points—(1) the interesting legal question which it suggested; and (2) the practical conclusion which it expressed. 1. What is the feature in Mr. Green's case which would render it unconstitutional for the Minister to advise Her Majesty to extend to Mr. Green the clemency which rescues from fine, imprisonment, or death persons condemned for felony, murder, or treason? Is it that the Prime Minister scruples to advise the intervention of the Crown between an ecclesiastical offence and its correction by one exercising the office of an Ecclesiastical Judge? 2. Viewing the unseemly spectacle of a clergyman imprisoned for ritual irregularity by an Official Principal (upon the avowal of the Primates) incompletely qualified—and consequently incompletely authorised—as a product of the Public Worship Regulation Act, the Prime Minister assigns "to the high authorities who devised and passed that Act" the responsibility of terminating the scandal. Englishmen, sympathising or not with Mr. Green's ritual, who desire to see him released from durance, now know that their purpose can be effected only through the two Archbishops, whether by personal influence or by fresh legislation.

Canon Knox-Little has written to a Manchester correspondent of the *Christian World* denying the accuracy of a statement in that paper that he had said, in one of his sermons, that "confession to God alone was dangerous." These words, the Canon declares, were never uttered by him. "They," he adds, "do not at all express my views on the matter, and those views I have for years honestly stated, when called upon do so. I hold exactly the *permissive* view of the Church of England, as expressed in the Communion Service, and in the Service for the Visitation of the Sick. Confession direct to Almighty God I hold not merely advantageous, but *indispensable*, and the benefit of any further acknowledgment of sin to God, in the presence of His minister, depends, as the Church of England teaches, on the particular state of an evil. It is most helpful to some; personally, I feel it so myself. The matter of *real* importance is, of course, sincere repentance, and a humble and faithful coming to our Blessed Saviour. I need hardly say I know many dear and loving souls who have used particular confession."

A new altar was used for the first time on Easter Day, at the ancient church of Bathampton, which archæologists will regret to hear is about to be spoilt by enlargement.

Special services in celebration of the re-dedication of the bells of Camborne church were held on Easter Tuesday. In the course of the day the bells were rung by a band of the Devonshire Guild of Ringers, led by Colonel Trelawny and Mr. Bannister.

At several of the parish vestries held during the past few days in Canterbury, the question as to who are the proper parties to deal with the offertory fund has been brought up, and in more than one instance warmly discussed. The vicar of one of the churches has in these circumstances appealed to the Archdeacon of Canterbury (the Bishop Suffragan of Dover) for his opinion on the matter, and Dr. Parry has given it in these words:—

The Rubric at the close of the Communion service with regard to the offertory collection refers only to the money then collected; all other collections in church are, I believe, undoubtedly at the disposal of the incumbent alone, at his discretion. If there be any difficulty about the disposal of the money collected during the reading of the offertory sentences, the remedy is plain—namely, to refer the matter to the Archbishop. So far as my experience goes back, now for many years, the Archbishop has almost invariably responded to any such reference by deciding that half of each such collection shall be at the disposal of the minister and half at the disposal of the two churchwardens together.

The parish church of Box, which stands near the famous tunnel on the Great Western Railway, being in a very dilapidated condition, a committee was appointed at the Easter vestry to take measures for restoring and repairing it.

In consequence of recent disputes between the rector of Combe Hay, Somerset, and his parishioners, the following resolution was carried at the Easter vestry:—

That without expressing any opinion on the merits of the differences which exist in the parish, this meeting asserts its confident belief that it is only by the retirement of the rector that peace and unity can be restored therein, and he is accordingly requested to resign (!).

A letter has been received by the Rector of St. George's, Hanover-square, from the Rev. C. Bice, who has written at the request of Bishop Selwyn to give some account of the boy "Tambui," who is supported in the Melanesian School at Norfolk Island by the children of St. George's parish. He says, "Tambui" is a native of Maewo, Tanoriki, in the New Hebrides group; is 15 years of age; peculiarly happy, affectionate, and amiable; is not backward at school—but is not a sharp boy; was received in August last "into the Ark of Christ's Church," and received the name of Philip, after a countryman who had recently died at the island. "Tambui," or "Philip," is going to settle down in due time as a teacher at his native home; but, meanwhile, the children of St. George's parish are promised news concerning their *protégé* from time to time.

It is been found necessary to re-roof the nave of the parish church of Shipdam, Norfolk, and it has been resolved at the same time to restore and reseat the interior. The cost is estimated at £2,500, towards which the rector (the Rev. G. C. Bailey,) has munificently contributed £1,000, and promises of further aid to the extent of £300 have been obtained. As the population of the parish is chiefly of the labouring class, but little further help can be hoped for locally, and the assistance of the wealthy community outside is solicited.

Concerning a paragraph in the *Plymouth Gazette*, headed "Serious Charge against a Clergyman," a correspondent writes:—

Seeing a paragraph under this heading in your issue of to-day [Tuesday] I looked in "*Crockford's Clerical Directory* for the "clergyman's" name. It is not there. Crockford has never heard of the man, and it may be taken for granted, therefore, that the "Rev. Arthur Willis" is not a clergyman at all. Let any Dissenting minister get into trouble, and the telegraphic agencies dub him a "clergyman" forthwith. This was done in the case of the Independant preacher who was sent to prison a few weeks ago for a foul offence, and it is done almost every week, and thus the Church is saddled with discredit which properly is due to Nonconformity.

The rebuilding and extension of the chancel of the fine old parish church of Great Grimsby, as a memorial to Canon Ainslie, lately resigned, but for many years vicar, is about to be commenced. During Mr. Ainslie's incumbency the nave was newly roofed and the western gable rebuilt, under the direction of Mr. Withers, who has also designed the new east end.

A singular statement to his parishioners has just been issued by the Rev. J. Henry Skewes, vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Liverpool, who alleges that threats and promises have been freely used to induce him to surrender, what he believes to be the simple and faithful worship of the Reformed Church of England. He says:—

In October a request was urgently made that the choir

when saying the Creed, should turn to the east. In December a request was made, accompanied by a threat, that when the curate took the service he should be allowed to intone; at about the same time the utmost pressure was brought to bear upon me to adopt a hymn book, *Ancient and Modern*, which, in my opinion, teaches among other questionable doctrines transubstantiation and the worship of the Virgin Mary. At the commencement of January, intimations, almost equalling a threat, were made to me to give up the usual congregational hymn for an anthem. More or less, from December to the middle of March, strong and untiring efforts have been made to get me to introduce the foregoing hymn book and to make the Church Service less and less congregational; in the middle of February I was strongly and persistently urged to allow to be advertised in the newspapers that after a certain Sunday evening service, an organ recital would be given in the church; in the middle of March I was again and again pressed to allow the curate, not merely to intone when he took the service, but to surrender to him the chief portion of the service, when I took it; at the same time I was also strongly urged to have the communion table (called in this case "altar") covered with black on Good Friday, and to have, on Easter Sunday, on the same table, a cross with flowers; in a most unpleasant way, accompanied with semi-profane insinuations, have I been urged to give up evening communion; and by clandestine means have attempts been made to introduce into the church certain hymns and practices to which, it was known, I was opposed. For peace-sake, as well as fearing the consequences of the threats which were made, I most reluctantly conceded a part of the intoning request (but there will be no more intoning after Easter Sunday), and also the morning anthem. As to the other requests, if not demands, I have firmly refused to yield. Though I have done this, I have under all circumstances kindly reasoned with the party or parties concerned. I can mention several other matters, but I have stated enough to show that should my income from the church be seriously diminished, through almost every form of opposition which has been used against me, it will be in the defence of what I deem to be vital principles. I think it my duty to make this statement in view of the approaching vestry meeting.

On Good Friday the *Times* in its first leading article remarked :—

To-day is one of the two chief solemnities of the Christian year. A principal use of such anniversaries is to suggest a religious stock-taking for individuals and for nations. Men and communities have an opportunity of reminding themselves where they stood twelve months ago in point of religion and morality, and where they stand now. The condition of mind in persons and families is too intricate and delicate a mystery to be gauged from without; that of Christendom at large is too vast and vague. How even the various communities which make up the Christian commonwealth of these islands have moved backwards or forwards during a given season is for the most part itself beyond external examination. Sects and denominations devoid of a State character, numerous and mighty as they may be, partake too much of the nature of family organisations to admit of criticism by strangers. The Church of England can claim and should desire no such immunity from judgment. It does its deeds openly. Its merits are on the surface. Its defects are equally visible. Shortcomings are necessarily more conspicuous than achievements in a field so immense, and with resources any Church can bring to bear upon it so limited. By its position and prerogatives the Church is answerable for all which ought to be done and is left undone. What it has to combat most strenuously, what tasks its energies most painfully, is not hostility outside or heresy within its borders, but lassitude and indifference. In some aspects the pleasantest feature of the period since last Good Friday has been the gradual abatement of the passionate virulence which inflames Churchmen against one another. The kingdom has ceased to be distracted by appeals for pity and resentment towards or against a martyr or a rebel. Mr. Green's sympathisers, though not mute, declaim as if in shame of a sudden silence on the wrong their friend and representative suffers through being left to turn the key in his gaol-door and let himself out. Their adversaries keep silence from a kindred sentiment of shame at having bombarded a citadel and hit a drummer-boy. *But the stillness, comparative if not absolute, only testifies, it is to be feared, to the prevailing lethargy.* For a moment it seemed as if the country were overflowing with religious emotions which required an outlet by way of a free fight between picked champions. The artificial dust and uproar have subsided, and it is discovered that a regimental band has been beating to arms with no regiment behind it. Religious excitement, like political excitemen, cannot be maintained by the most assiduous efforts of bells and preachers. Neither Ritualism nor its enemies have shown any ability to draw together a congregation of others than sightseers. Yet the Church stands, though it has not greatly advanced. Beneath the pervading cloud of indifference it continues to labour and it wins victories. An attitude of indifference is the fashion of this expiring section of the nineteenth century. It is not peculiar to the Church of England,or to religion generally. Workers in this modern world, whatever their vocation, must be content to do their work by themselves, and let the results take their chance.

The restoration of Tring Church, begun twenty years ago, is now completed. The total cost has amounted to nearly £10,000.

'An Oxfordshire Parson" writes to the *Times* :—

You may, perhaps, find space for the following words of Earl Russell on the Commutation of Tithe, which will have influence on the minds of honourable men, though none on those who, not strong enough to plunder the landlord, like their congeners in Ireland, declare their resolution to plunder the parson if they can. Lord Russell was Home Secretary when the Act was passed :—

"All the evils of the tithe system were the subject of fair compromise and permanent settlement by the Act of 1836. The progress of agriculture was freed from vexatious impediments, and the clergy were spared the unseemly contentions which had fostered ill-will and disturbed social relations." (*Recollections*, p. 142.)

Mr. Raikes, M.P., will preside at the annual meeting of the Church of England Young Men's Society on Tuesday next, April 18, at Cannon-street Hotel.

The Mayor of Gloucester on Wednesday afternoon laid the foundation stone of a memorial church to Robert Raikes, the founder of Sunday-schools. The Bishop of the diocese and other dignitaries were present. The church is to accommodate nearly 1,000 worshippers, and will have a district formed out of several large and populous parishes.

The pulpit which has been lately erected in St. Nicholas Church, Great Yarmouth, has taken a peculiar shape. It is constructed of oak and walnut woods, and has been erected under the direction of the Rev. Canon Venables, vicar of Great Yarmouth, who first conceived the idea of such a structure, in order that all listeners might from time to time see the preacher. It is placed against the south side of the north-west pillar of the central tower, which is of very large dimensions. The work has been designed and executed by Messrs. Buckley and Co., of London. The total length of the pulpit is 12ft. 3in., and its height 7ft. 10in. The platform is reached by stairs, of which the sides are formed by boldly carved branches of vine and fig-trees; on the newels of the gate (which is of iron, hammered after an old example) are statues of Moses and David; standing on the base of the pulpit are figures of several of the Patriarchs and Prophets of the Old Testament; at the corners of the platform are those of the four Evangelists, and in the centre the statues of St. Peter and St. Paul. There are five panels, carved in walnut wood in relief, along the south side and on the two ends; these panels represent episodes of the New Testament. The details of the carving are rich, and treated with great care. The total cost of the work was £580.

A two-light window has been erected in St. Peter's, Middlesborough, this week, the gift of Mrs. Cann, the design having previously been submitted for approval to the Archbishop of York. Two subjects have been chosen—one illustrating Christ blessing little children, Matthew xix. 13.—"Then were there brought unto him little children that He should put His hands on them, and pray"—and the other the raising of Jairus's daughter, Matthew ix. 25., "But when the people were put forth, He went in and took her by the hand, and the maid arose." Without being overcrowded, a number of figures have been introduced, the varied expressions helping to give animation to the window. The colouring is subdued in tone, without however, darkening the church in any way, this being prevented by a free use of white tones of glass in the upper and lower portions of the window. The work is from the atelier of Messrs. Isaac Gibbs and Howard, of 64, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, London.

The Dean of Westminster writes to say that about £4,000 have been subscribed in this country to the Dean Stanley memorial fund; and a sum of £1,046 has come from the United States. The American subscribers number 300, including Winthrop, Phillips Brooks, Wendell Holmes, Longfellow, Emerson, and Whittier, and they stipulate that their subscriptions should be applied to pay for one of the memorial windows in the restored Chapter-house of Westminster Abbey, with a suitable inscription. The Dean states that of the total subscription, it is believed 2,000 guineas, a larger sum than was at first expected, may be required for the monument in the Abbey, a small model of which—a recumbent figure supported on a tomb—has been prepared by Mr. Boehm. "The sum that remains will, after deducting necessary expenses, be barely sufficient to defray the cost of two or three large and one small windows which will remain after the completion of those which will be given by Her Majesty the Queen, by the late Dean himself, and by the American contributors. It is hoped, therefore, that the sum necessary for the entire completion of the work—*i.e.*, about £1,500 more—may yet be raised by the friends and admirers of Dean Stanley."

The Hon. and Rev. W. H. Lyttelton, Canon of Gloucester, has issued the following circular :—

It is thought that there is room for some new attempt to promote an intelligent interest in the Cathedral among all classes of men in the city and neighbourhood of Gloucester. Such efforts, I beg respectfully to suggest, might be made in two principal directions, viz.—(1) Fresh researches with a view to preparing materials for a more complete history of the Cathedral. (2) Popular lectures, of which the object should be to interest all classes in such knowledge of the whole subject as has already been obtained. For these purposes it is proposed to arrange for a series of lectures and *conversaziones*, to be held during the winter of 1882-3. As soon as a sufficient number of names has been sent in a meeting will be held to consider the plan more completely. The proposal has the approval of the Dean.

On Easter Day most of the London churches were decorated—many of them very beautifully—with flowers and evergreens. Last year at St. John's, Kennington, there were 976 communicants, but the number on this occasion reached 1,054. There were celebrations at 4.30, 5.30, 6.30, and 8 a.m., as well as at mid-day. At the first service 180 persons received the Blessed Sacrament, and at half-past six 451. At the neighbouring church of St. Agnes there were six celebrations, but the number of communicants showed a slight falling off—524 instead of 540. At St. Paul's Cathedral the recipients were 385. At Holy Trinity, Clapham, there was first Evensong on Easter Eve at five o'clock, followed at eight by a full choral service, the service closing with the singing of the Easter hymn, "Jesus Christ is risen to-day." On Easter Day there were celebrations at seven and eight o'clock and at mid-day. At a quarter to three there was a children's service and Holy Baptism; at a quarter to four first Evensong and sermon; and at seven a second Evensong and sermon, followed by a procession, with the singing of the Easter hymn and the *Te Deum*. At St. Margaret Pattens a Mass by Schubert in C was sung; at St. Chad's, Haggerston, the high service included the *Kyrie* by Schubert in G, and the *Gloria* from Mozart's 12th, Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" being sung in the evening. St. Stephen's, South Kensington; St. Matthias, West Brompton; St. John and St. Agnes, Kennington, may also be instanced among churches where the music was of an elaborate character.

At the week-day services in St. Marylebone Workhouse in Holy Week an address on the events of each day was given by the chaplain. On Good Friday there were four services, which were well attended by the inmates, in three of which addresses were given on the Seven Words from the Cross. On Easter Day there was a celebration of the Holy Communion at 8.30, at which there were present seventy-eight communicants.

At Lincoln Cathedral during Holy Week, in addition to the ordinary Matins and Evensong, which were sung unaccompanied, there was every day an early service, with an address by Canon Crowfoot, at 7.45, and also a short service, with an address by Sub-Dean Clements, at 4.45, both in the morning chapel. On Good Friday the sermon at Matins was preached by Canon Morse, of St. Mary's, Nottingham, and at Evensong by Sub-Dean Clements. There was the usual special Evensong at 7.30 on Easter Eve, when the former portion of the second part of Handel's *Messiah*, with the Hallelujah Chorus, was sung by the Cathedral choir, strengthened by a large number of volunteers. A short and very telling address was delivered by the Rev. J. O. Stephens, of Blankney, and the service closed with the hymn, "Jesus lives." On Easter Day the Dean preached and celebrated the Holy Communion.

On the afternoon of Easter Day a flower service was held at the parish church of Bow. The congregation were asked to bring with them flowers, which were collected at the close of the service and sent to the Children's Hospital, Shadwell. The sermon was preached by the rector (the Rev. W. P. Insley) from St. Matt. vi. 28—"Consider the lilies."

At a very large vestry held at Holy Trinity, Bordesley, on Easter Monday, the following resolution was passed with one dissentient, 13,000 copies of it having been previously circulated throughout the parish :—

We, the parishioners of Holy Trinity, Bordesley, assembled in Easter vestry, 1882, hereby repudiate all the proceedings connected with the prosecution of our vicar, the Rev. R. W. Enraght, under the Public Worship Regulation Act; and express our strongest condemnation of the prosecution and its promoters:

We deeply regret that, through the vicar's influence, opposition was not raised to the election of Mr. John Perkins as parish churchwarden at Easter vestry of 1878, or at his re-election in 1879; feeling sure that, if a poll of the parishioners had been taken, Mr. Perkins would not have been elected to an office which he used for the purpose of prosecuting the vicar; and we are confirmed in this opinion by the result of the poll at the Easter vestry of 1880, when Mr. Perkins, after less than three hours' polling, retired from the contest, being defeated by a majority of more than ten to one.

We hereby express our determination to use all legitimate means to prevent the eviction of our vicar; and we appeal to the proper authorities, ecclesiastical and civil, to attend to this our resolution in vestry, and to disallow further action in this matter against the vicar.

We request the churchwardens to forward copies of this resolution to Her Majesty the Queen; to the Bishop of the diocese and the Proctors in Convocation for the diocese; to the Archbishops and the other Bishops and clergy of the Convocations of Canterbury and York; to the Prime Minister; to the Home Secretary; and to the patrons of this benefice.

It is stated that the Rev. C. Hope Robertson, of Lyminge, has written to the Charity Commissioners to resign his office as one of the trustees of the Bedingfield Charity, in that parish, on the ground that the new scheme proposed by the Commissioners altogether alienates the endowments from the Church of England, whereas the charity was left by a Churchman for the benefit of communicants in the Church of England only, and also because the scheme is in direct opposition to the testator's directions generally.

The Charity Commissioners having proposed a new scheme in the matter of Worrall's Free School and of Fuller's Charity for education and otherwise for the benefit of children in the parish of St. Luke, Old-street, the vestry of that parish has resolved to protest against the clauses providing for the appointment of the rector of the parish as an *ex officio* governor and for the incumbent appointing a representative governor. They state that, in the place of these two, governors should be appointed by the vestry. They further object to the clauses relating to the maintenance of exhibitions, so far as those clauses provide for the recipients being previously examined in the forms and ceremonies and doctrines of the Church of England, on the ground that the imposition of religious tests to candidates for exhibitions of this nature is at variance with the advancement of the age, and contrary to prevailing public opinion. The vestry observe that in the case of Worrall's Charity no mention is made in the will of the donor as to religious education, further than that the schoolmaster should be qualified according to the Church of England—a circumstance which, in the opinion of the vestry, does not conclusively prove the desirability of continuing such an examination as that proposed. The vestry suggest that the exhibitions should be open to children of all public elementary schools in the parish, and that no test whatever of a religious character should be imposed by the scheme.

On the invitation of the clergy of the rural deanery of Shoreham, Kent, the Bishop of Bedford conducted a devotional service for the clergy at St. Mary's, Riverhead, Kent, on Saturday, April 1st, commencing at a quarter to three o'clock. Nearly fifty clergy were present, about half of whom belonged to the deanery of Shoreham, and the others to adjoining deaneries. The service began with a hymn, and after some Collects and the *Veni Creator*, Bishop How delivered from the lectern a most suggestive and admirable address on the "Spiritual Life: what it is not and what it is." After an interval of silence for private prayer and Evensong, the Bishop delivered a second equally instructive and searching address on the hindrances to the spiritual life. Another interval of silence followed for prayer. While the final hymn was sung, an Offertory was made for the Diocesan Society for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy, the funds of which much-needed charity are at present very low. The Bishop's two addresses were admirably calculated at once to stimulate all who heard them to increased diligence in their pastoral work, and to scrutinise very closely the hidden motives and springs of action of which that work must be the outcome.

The Archbishop of York has addressed the following letter to the Secretary of the Yorkshire Sunday Closing Association :—

Bishopthorpe, York, April 8.

I entirely concur in the proposal to press forward a Bill for the Sunday closing of public-houses in Yorkshire. Such a Bill will have my support should it reach the House of Lords. That Sunday closing will soon be adopted for the whole kingdom by the will of the people, and with their general approval, I fully expect; but if this experiment can be tried in the largest county the progress towards general closing will be much quickened.

W. Ebor.

The President of the Orange Free State laid on Septuagesima Sunday the foundation-stone of the nave of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Bloemfontein, using the same silver trowel which his father had given him eighteen years ago when he left England, and with which he has laid the foundation-stone of several churches. The Bishop (Dr. Webb), Archdeacon Croghan, Canons Crisp, Beckett, and Gaul, the Hon. and Rev. A. V. Lyttelton, acting Precentor, and some twenty clergymen were present, and a large number of laity, white and coloured. The tripod from which the stone was suspended was decorated with the Union Jack and the flag of the Orange Free State. There is a daily celebration of Holy Communion in the Cathedral. The architect is Mr Arthur Byrd, and the portion of the Cathedral now to be built will cost £6,000.

A congregation, which filled to overflowing every part of Canterbury Cathedral allotted to the public, listened on Tuesday evening to a performance, by the regular choir of the Cathedral, augmented by the auxiliary voluntary choir, of Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," which had been very appropriately selected as the special feature of the annual Easter Tuesday evening service. Before the performance commenced the Dean delivered a short appropriate address.

The annual meeting of the vestry of St. James's, Hatcham, was held in the vestry of the church at eight o'clock on Tuesday morning, the vicar, the Rev. H. A. Walker, presiding. There was a large attendance, and the proceedings throughout were of a noisy character. According to the notice issued by the vicar, the meeting was merely for the appointment of churchwardens, but according to a second notice by Mr. Churchwarden Sanders, it was also to pass resolutions expressing the opinion of the parishioners as to the form of services conducted, and condemning the action of the vicar in continually resorting to the police-court in matters connected with the church. Mr. Churchwarden Sanders repeated the course taken by him last year in formally calling for a statement of the accounts to be submitted to the meeting. He argued that these accounts should legally be under the joint control of the vicar and churchwardens, and protested against the vicar assuming to himself the disposal of the offertories. Mr. J. Fuller said the persons who contributed to the offertories, who formed nine-tenths of the congregation, were perfectly well satisfied with the manner in which it was at present disposed of, and he hoped the vicar would not be influenced by a body of persons, very few of whom attended the church at all, while those who did never contributed. (Uproar.) Mr. Sanders said they knew of what the congregarion was composed; it was composed mostly of children, who were being brought up, not according to the teachings of the Church of England, but according to a superstitious mummery. ("Hear, hear," and "Shame.") They were told that Christ was actually and really present in the Communion. The Vicar said the accounts were printed and circulated two months ago. Mr. Sanders replied that what he claimed was to have a voice in the manner in which the money was disposed of. The Vicar declined to do anything further, and then reappointed Mr. Bridges as his warden for the ensuing year. Mr. Thorman moved the re-election of Mr. N. W. Sanders as the people's churchwarden, observing that that gentleman had striven in the past to stem the torrent of Ritualism which had, unfortunately, taken root in the parish. (Cheers.) If people thought the forms of service were different to what they were in Mr. Tooth's time, let him tell them they were worse. The Real Corporeal Presence was preached, and, further, the confessional was practised. He was told on good authority that the vicar asked a boy of twelve years of age to go and confess. The Vicar: I deny it. Mr. Thorman: If he says it is untrue, I withdraw it. (No, no.) But he will not deny that the confessional is openly practised. We have got rid of the confession box but not of the confessional. The resolution appointing Mr. Sanders was seconded by Mr. Powell and carried. Mr. Sanders said the vicar insisted that the Act under which the church was built did not provide for sidesmen, and the Chancellor had hitherto supported him. But he held that as any new ecclesiastical parish was allowed the same privileges as the mother parish, and as St. Paul's, Deptford, had sidesmen he still held that they retained the right. (Hear, hear.) He intended to appeal to the Bishop at the archdeaconry visitation. He formally proposed that Mr. Thorman and Mr. Gay be appointed sidesmen; but the Chairman declined to accept the nomination, and declared the proceedings, so far as he was concerned, closed. Mr. Warburton then moved :—

That the parishioners of St. James's, Hatcham, in vestry assembled, hereby protest against the vicar continually having recourse to the police-court in matters connected with the church, instead of seeking the advice and accepting the ruling of the Bishop of the diocese, as provided in the Book of Common Prayer.

(Loud cheers.) The Vicar: I shall not put that from the chair. The meeting then elected Mr. Sanders to the chair; and the resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Holmes Moss, was carried, about half a dozen voting against it. Mr. Thorman next moved :—

That the parishioners of St. James's, Hatcham, in vestry assembled, hereby condemn the action of the Vicar in continuing to conduct the services, and more especially the administration of the Holy Communion, in such a manner as to debar them from taking part therein, and protest against being thus deprived of their rights as members of the Church of England.

(Cheers.) The mover declared that the Holy Communion as administered was a copy of the Romish Mass, and none of them could take part in it. The music inflicted upon them was no better than could be produced by two bluebottles. (Laughter and cheers.) He concluded by remarking that if there was a miserable man in the parish it must be the vicar, who had estranged himself from his parishioners, and had only the sympathy of a string of outsiders. The resolution having been carried, a protest was handed to Mr. Sanders against his putting the resolution after the vicar had closed the meeting, but this the former characterised as child's play. The Rev. H. Pearson, the curate, said some reference had been made to sermons he had preached, respecting which he would just remark that two of those he submitted to the Bishop. With regard to one, the Bishop replied that there was nothing whatever contrary to the teaching of the Church of England; and to the other, that one statement might have been put rather differently, all the rest of the letter being commendatory. Mr. Sanders said there was a mistake somewhere, for the Bishop had informed him, with reference to one remark in one of the sermons, "that the angels bowed the knee at the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary," that the preacher had no warrant in stating that. Mr. Pearson said he could produce his letters to bear him out. The proceedings then closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Sanders for his services in the past year and conduct in the chair—a vote of thanks to the vicar for his conduct while in the chair being lost.

MISCELLANEOUS.

What is stated to be the first pension ever granted to a Volunteer has just been awarded. Mr. James Macdonald, late a private of the Rothes Company, 1st Elginshire Rifle Volunteers, is to have 6d. a day for life, in consequence of injuries sustained at the Royal Review last August.

Mr. James Lees, a manufacturer at Manchester, was killed on Monday at Heaton Norris Station, being knocked down by a passing train while he was leaning from the platform.

On Wednesday the body of James Simmons, a Waterloo veteran, was interred at Carshalton, Surrey. The busby and sword he wore at Waterloo were placed on his coffin. The funeral was attended by a large crowd of persons. Among the mourners was a brother of the deceased, who has reached his 94th year. The deceased was 91 years of age. He inherited some little property at Sutton, where he has resided for many years, regularly celebrating the anniversary of the battle.

The boiler of a small tug steamer at Amlwch, North Wales, burst on Friday, and three men were killed, the vessel sinking immediately.

One of the men who were injured by a recent fall of earth in the Killingworth Colliery, near Newcastle, died on Friday. Three other men are still in a precarious condition.

On saturday evening in Grange-road, Bermondsey, a man fell down a hole made in connection with some main drainage works being carried on in the thoroughfare. The hole was 25ft. deep, and when the man was conveyed to Guy's Hospital the house-surgeon found he was dead. It is a somewhat singular circumstance that a few days since another man, while intoxicated, fell down the same hole, but was picked up uninjured. The hole is protected in the usual way, with scaffold-poles.

We learn from Inverness that on the morning of Good Friday a large number of children and grown-up people were suddenly taken ill in Murrtown and Dufftown streets, and betrayed symptoms of irritant poisoning. Medical aid was summoned, and as the symptoms were in each case the same—vomiting, parched mouth, a burning sensation in the throat, and trembling of the limbs—it was evident these had arisen from the same cause. On inquiry it was found that all the patients had partaken of hot-cross buns supplied by a baker in Greig-street, and the peculiarly strong and pungent smell of the spices in the vomited matter readily attracted the attention of the doctors. The baker states that he got a packet of mixed spice from a firm in Aberdeen, and that his foreman, in mixing one-half of it with the dough, felt his throat dry and his mouth parched, but this at the time he attributed to an attack of cold. It appears, too, that several of the workmen after partaking of the buns were seized with illness, as well as members of the baker's family. The cause of the illness in many of the cases is attributed to the spice. About 2,000 buns were manufactured, and of these one-half were sold before the sale was stopped. In one family no fewer than eight persons betrayed all the symptoms of acute poisoning, and in another family six were affected. Nearly 100 persons suffered in all. One of the buns and a quantity of the spice have been forwarded to Dr. Littlejohn, Edinburgh, for analysis. No fatal results have occurred. Dr. Littlejohn, of Edinburgh, has analysed some buns from the batch which were forwarded to him for that purpose, and he reports that he has been unable to discover any traces of metallic poison. The illness of the persons who partook of these buns, therefore, remains unexplained.

About midnight on Thursday se'nnight a serious poaching affray occurred on Lord Midleton's estate at Wharram. Five watchers, when out on Mr. Harrison's farm, heard guns fired about ten o'clock, and on David Barford, head keeper, appearing, the keepers went in the direction of the shots and hid themselves. After watching for two hours eight poachers, five of them armed with guns, came in sight from the direction of Driffield. On seeing the gamekeepers they threatened to shoot them if they did not come out of their hiding place. Thinking he was out-numbered, Barford, the head keeper, proceeded to draw off his men, when the poachers attacked them with sticks and stones. The keepers were standing in line, when one of the poachers called out, "Those that have guns shoot," and one of the fellows immediately did so and hit two of the keepers, Barford and William Allinson. The latter was the most seriously injured, being shot in the face and head and the side of the neck. Barford was also shot in the left shoulder and the face. The wounded men were immediately conveyed home and attended by doctors, who do not think their wounds will end fatally. After firing, the poachers made off in the direction of Driffield. The affair has created the greatest excitement in the Wold district, where poaching has been rife of late.

The *St. James's Gazette* remarks:—"The outrages now committed almost daily in the streets of London are almost as atrocious as those which attract so much attention in Ireland. How long the present state of things will be permitted to last it is difficult to guess. No Cabinet Minister has yet been attacked in the streets by a gang of roughs; and until such a painful incident occurs it is improbable that the ruffianly tyranny under which London suffers will be considered worth notice by Her Majesty's Government. Matters, however, are coming to such a pass that unless effectual steps are taken for the protection of the law-abiding classes, it will probably be found necessary to organise private associations for the repression of the gangs who are now fast becoming masters of the metropolis. The latest act of ruffianism reported is the beating and kicking of an unfortunate man by a crowd of 'youths' on the Albert Embankment, the result being that the victim of this brutality has been admitted into St. Thomas's Hospital, where he now lies suffering from the frightful injuries inflicted upon him. This is but a type of several other assaults of a like nature reported within the past few days; and unless 'law and order' are considered as no longer worthy of preservation, it is high time that a campaign should be commenced in earnest against the bloodthirsty ruffians who are at present treated with a forbearance that is utterly inexplicable."

A fire broke out on Tuesday morning in a house in Princess-street, Edgware-road, and a man named Ambrose was burnt to death.

At Sheffield, on Sunday, the Salvation Army held a series of services preparatory to the great demonstration to take place in that town on Monday. At a final conference with the Mayor, the stipendiary magistrate, and the chief constable, "Captain" Case, acting on behalf of the Army, agreed to dispense with the drum and the big banner in the procession, and to avoid the routes where they were attacked in January last. The Mayor decided to issue an appeal to the public to preserve order.

The body of a young Englishmen has been found on the railway between Calais and Boulogne, and upon his clothes was the name W. J. Willoughby. He left Paris with two other Englishmen, and the last time he was seen alive was at Boulogne. He had apparently fallen or been thrown from a train. Mr. James Willoughby, partner in the firm of Messrs. Willoughby Brothers, ironfounders, of Plymouth, in a communication to the *Western Daily Mercury*, states that the young man is his son, who was assistant paymaster of Her Majesty's troopship *Tamar*. The body when found upon the line had evidently been injured by passing trains; but there were also wounds upon the head, which suggested foul play. The guard of the train recollects Mr. Willoughby travelling between Boulogne and Calais on March 30 with two elderly men. The young man is said to have had a considerable sum of money with him.

The King of Sweden has addressed the following letter to Madame Nilsson-Rouzand:—"Christiania, March 5. Dear Madame Nilsson-Rouzand,—I am sure that you have not doubted a single instant of the very sincere sympathy I have in the cruel trial which has fallen on you. The news reached me very late, owing to my journey to Christiania, and when at length I heard of the death of your husband it was too late to telegraph, and I preferred waiting till I could properly write a letter in your great and natural affliction without being obtrusive. Dear Madame Nilsson, I was much distressed when I read the sad circumstances which led to your terrible misfortune. God alone can give you strength of mind and body to bear up against such a trial; but He will give it to you I am certain, and you have my sincerest wishes for your future. You are yet young and in full possession of the great artistic qualities which have founded and justify your renown. You will find consolation in work, and your very sorrow, by the help of God, may contribute to the development of your genius. You may long, very long, I hope, remain the great artist who honours the country which gave you birth. It is not so much in my character as King of that country as an amateur, and above all as your friend, that I do not hesitate to say this. Yes, rely on these sentiments on my part, and believe me, your ever affectionate OSCAR."

Mr. John Francis, for fifty years publisher of the *Athenæum*, died at his residence in Wellington-street, Strand, at the close of last week, in the 71st year of his age. He came from an old Nonconformist family in Essex, and was born in 1811, receiving his earliest education at a dame's school in Bermondsey, and afterwards at a school in Tooley-street, when his master obtained him employment at the newspaper office of Mr. Marlborough, in Ave Maria-lane. In August, 1831, he obtained employment in the office of the *Athenæum*, and before long the management of its financial matters was placed in his hands. At an early period his attention was drawn to the heavy fiscal restrictions on the newspaper Press, and he took an active and prominent part in trying to remove them. Mr. Grant, in his "History of the Newspaper Press," records his opinion that, while Mr. Milner Gibson fought the battle in Parliament, Mr. Francis did more than any one man out of doors towards bringing about the repeal, successively of the advertisment duty, the stamp duty, and, lastly, the paper duty. During the long agitation on this question Mr. Francis was constantly engaged in deputations to the leading Ministers of the day, and was really the founder of the association for the repeal of the paper duty, on behalf of which he visited Edinburgh and Dublin, along with Mr. Vizetelly and the late Mr. John Cassell. In 1863 his public services were rewarded in a very gratifying way—namely, by the presentation of a testimonial from a large number of gentlemen representing the Press and the Association for the Repeal of Taxes on Knowledge. It consisted of a massive silver salver and tea and coffee service, with a suitable inscription.

The Press Association is informed that the health of the convict Lamson remains good. His appetite is in no way impaired, and he invariably sleeps well, while at times his spirits are almost buoyant. Notwithstanding all the warnings which have been given to him by his friends, he seems to have a fixed idea that the capital sentence will not now be carried out. He attends the ordinary chapel services regularly, and takes exercise in the prison-yard twice daily. Mr. Mills, his solicitor, has visited him again and informed him of the steps which are being taken in his behalf. The convict has written what purports to be a diary of his movements just before the date of his visit to Wimbledon; but it is untrustworthy, many of the statements having upon inquiry been proved to be untrue. Some important evidence has been gathered from the four servants employed by the convict at Bournemouth, all of whom aver that they believed him to be insane, and took little notice of his orders. They also detail some of the eccentric acts committed by the prisoner while he lived at Bournemouth. This evidence will be forwarded in due course to the Home Office, together with that which will arrive from America by the *Arizona* and the *Adriatic*. A telegram has been received stating that the *Abyssinia* also brings documents bearing on the case, but as she did not sail until the 11th inst. these cannot of course be waited for.

"KEATING'S POWDER" is now sold at 6d., 1s., and 2s. 6d., in vastly improved tins (holding a considerable increased quantity), by all Chemists. This powder is perfectly unrivalled in destroying BUGS, FLEAS, BEETLES, MOTHS, and all insects, whilst quite harmless, to domestic animals. All furs and woollens should be well powdered before putting away. Beware of imitations.

TO GET RID OF WORMS IN CHILDREN procure a tin of "KEATING'S WORM TABLETS." This unique medicine is certain to cure, and may be taken with absolute safety by the youngest children. Price 1s. 1½d. of all Chemists.

The Volunteer Review at Portsmouth on Easter Monday attracted a vast concourse of spectators. Over 20,000 men took part in the manœuvres, and the Prince of Wales attended as Hon. Colonel of the Civil Service Rifles. The operations were conducted with a success which elicited the high encomiums of his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief.

An accident, which might have been very serious, occurred to the Duke of Sutherland on Friday afternoon while boating on the lake in front of Trentham Hall, with a number of distinguished guests. The Duke, who chose a boat with a sail, had not been on the water long before a sudden gust of wind capsised the small craft, throwing him into the water. Being an excellent swimmer, he kept himself up till he was rescued by a servant, who, seeing his perilous situation from the shore, immediately put off to his assistance. The accident, which was witnessed by the Marquis of Stafford from the shore, and the occupants of other boats who were too far off to render any aid, created much alarm. About an hour after his mishap the Duke reappeared amongst his guests none the worse for his immersion.

Since the time when Mr. Carlyle in his *Model Prisons* expressed his envy of the comfort and leisure—the freedom from taxes and botheration—to be found in a large London prison, something has been done in training prisoners to work. But now most of us, when thinking of a workhouse, regard it, and rightly, as a place where, except for a little stone-breaking and oakum-picking, no work is done. A very different order of things is to be found in the workhouse at Bow belonging to the Whitechapel union. This is a workhouse indeed. As the sick and invalid are lodged in the old workhouse a mile away, there are none but fairly healthy people here. These are to be seen in all directions busily at work. Much care and attention have evidently been given to make all arrangements as complete as possible. There are carpenters' shops, a smith's shed with forge, work-rooms for tailors and shoemakers; nor are the smaller trades overlooked. For those who have never learned a trade there is woodchopping, coffee-grinding on a large scale, a little stone-breaking, cleaning and sweeping, attending to the pigs and the garden, and other small work. It need hardly be said, no one is overworked; and it is certainly much better for any workman, although growing old and a little infirm (a majority in the carpenters' shops here wear spectacles), to do some easy work at his trade, than sit with idle hands while the weary hours pass. Of the benefit to the younger people nothing need be said. The ingenuity shown in finding work in some cases is amusing. What must be the condition of mind of a sour-minded tinman, who, after eating Australian beef, finds himself occupied in making the empty meat tins into useful pots and pans? On the women's side, too, much work is done—not only all the washing for the workhouse and infirmary, but for the large district schools. Roughly speaking, no outside tradesman is employed to do work here for these three or four hundred people, and there is a considerable sale of the results of their work. It has taken some years for a small experiment to grow into this success. Another step has been lately taken; the guardians appointed a "mental instructor." As those to be instructed already had a chaplain to look after them, there seemed to be a danger that the paupers would arrive at the condition of the young man *Punch* showed us a week or two ago—so "crammed" that he could get nothing out. But the result here has been satisfactory. The instructor has to make himself acquainted with the various trades, and learn what is going on about the country—whether men of any special trade are wanted anywhere. No doubt other unions are moving in the direction taken by this one; but here is probably the most complete example of what has been done hitherto.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

The principal topic discussed at the luncheon, held in connection with the annual assembly of the Congregational Union of North Wales at Wrexham on Wednesday, was that of higher and intermediate education in Wales. Mr. Osborne Morgan, M.P., said he echoed the hope expressed by the Premier two or three days ago, that Parliament would be in a position to deal with this question during the present Session; but as long as there was a conspiracy to frustrate legislation the passing of no measure could be predicted with safety. The House was chained hand and foot by its own rules, and the worst of it was there were some members who seemed so in love with their chains that they did not want to get out of them. With regard to the proposed scheme there was no difference of opinion among Welshmen. There were, however, three essentials—the education given must be unsectarian; it must be local; and it must be thorough and progressive. It was thought by some best to transplant the Welsh to English schools, but he thought that would tend to denationalise education, and he wanted to make Welsh boys and girls proud of their own schools. They desired to give every son and daughter of the Welsh farmer or tradesman exactly the same educational advantages which the Scotch farmer or tradesman's children had. If they wanted proper education they must begin low enough down, and if they took a lad from an elementary school and sent him to college, the result would not only be unsatisfactory, but would help to lower the standard of the college. He was sorry to say they had had some experience of this kind at the University College of Wales. In conclusion, he trusted that Parliament would deal with the question in a generous and ungrudging manner. Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., after stating his early experience with the efforts made to improve the education of the Welsh people, and alluding to the inadequate accommodation in the various schools for boys, said that the provision for girls was also very meagre, there only being three endowed schools in the Principality. The scholastic provision and the educational provision for Wales was miserably poor as compared with England. Mr. Richard next spoke of the recommendations of the Committee appointed to draw up a report on the subject, and mentioned, among other suggestions, that there should be proper grammar schools and science schools such as had already existed in some of the large towns, which schools ought to be undenominational in character. They had suggested that there should be a system of exhibitions from elementary schools to the higher schools and from the higher schools to the Universities, and had recommended the formation of two colleges—one for North and the other for South Wales. He was bound to say that the body of men who formed the Committee could not have been more earnest in the discharge of their duties or more desirous of doing justice to all, and their report was a marvel of economy. He was happy to see that it had been so favourably received by his countrymen. He had had a long interview with Lord Spencer and Mr. Mundella recently, and from it he inferred that the measure they were going to bring forward was to be based on the recommendations of the Committee; but whatever scheme was adopted it must be in harmony with the opinions and preferences of the great body of the people, and the people must be the interpreters of their own feelings.

Those who are interested in the spread of the spirit of kindness towards dumb animals and inoffensive insects will learn with pleasure of the surprising success of the *Little Folks* Humane Society, which promises to grow into such proportions as will, before long, extend its influence throughout the kingdom. Already, though scarcely more than three months have elapsed since its formation, nearly 7,000 children have joined the ranks of the Society, whilst the number of names received daily increases rather than diminishes. The movement has now spread to the schools, from one of which over 100 names arrived in a single day, with promise of more. In connection with this Society prizes are offered monthly for essays, poems, &c., on the subject of kindness to animals, and the May part of *Little Folks* contains several of these prize compositions, which will be of special interest to children. A further list of officers and members is given in the same part.

Jumbo's voyage to New York was uneventful. He arrived there on Saturday night, and next morning disembarked. One of the first on board the ship was Mr. Barnum, who went direct to Jumbo's box and patted his trunk, saying "Hollo, Jumbo, I have ridden on your back with Tom Thumb." Jumbo behaved splendidly during the voyage, and the martingale and back chains were removed on the first day out. The first two days were stormy and Jumbo showed slight symptoms of sea sickness. He was uneasy and trumpeted. During the second day he hung his trunk out of the box in a listless way, and paid slight attention to visitors and dainties. He had very little appetite. On the third day he brightened up wonderfully, got on his sea legs, braced himself, and swayed with the motion of the vessel. His appetite returned; he slept usually between ten and one at night leaning against the side of the box. During the third night he showed much uneasiness, going down on his knees, trying different postures, and butting his head with vexation. Subsequently he forced off the beam in front of his head; it was promptly replaced. He did not like to be left alone at night with lights burning about him. When the keeper started to leave him and go up the gangway he whistled for him—so the keeper stayed with him all the time. The third day out the 300 emigrants visited him, giving him cakes, fruit, and bread, which seemed to cheer him. One night he was alarmed by the barking of a dog, and whistled violently. Generally he was so quiet that the keepers went in and out of his box without his harming them. One day a sailor was washing his clothes near the cage when he hit Jumbo's trunk. Whereupon the animal seized the sailor's shirt and began wiping the floor with it. His daily diet was 200lb. of hay, two bushels of oats, a bushel of biscuits, twelve or fifteen loaves of bread, twenty buckets of water, and unlimited whiskey and beer. He was tried one day with rum, but did not like Jack's beverage, and tossed out the food mixed with it. Occasionally the mischievous sailors gave him tobacco, which made him thoughtful and indignant, while whiskey made him affectionate. Jumbo is very fond of whiskey, but he always insisted, after drinking the spirit, upon being supplied with a pail of pure water. This habit of his new acquisition will greatly shock Mr. Barnum, who is said to be a great temperance advocate. During the entire voyage Jumbo was seldom without the presence of some of the passengers as visitors, and he was always ready to shake hands. He soon learned to balance himself so as to accommodate himself to the roll of the vessel. The cage beams were worn as glossy as steel by the tossing of his trunk, which was sore when he left London, but healed on the voyage, as also did the tusk, the lips, eyes, and ankles where the chains rubbed him; so that now he is in perfect health. The vessel had head winds all the way, and the water frequently washed over the deck and into the hold around Jumbo, but the box was covered with tarpaulin, and he was not wet. On the day before the arrival of the vessel, the doctor vaccinated him on the trunk. When the steamer reached the dock on the New Jersey shore many persons boarded her, and Jumbo held a levée while waiting for the lighter with the derrick to take him to New York. He seemed amiable, and not a particle irritated by the voyage. The keepers say there is not a scratch on him. The general comment on him was that he had unusually long legs, but that his body was no bigger than other elephants in America. Jumbo was disembarked without any mishap, and was drawn on wheels along Broadway to his quarters at Barnum's. He is expected to weigh a ton more when he returns to England, probably in November. Mr. Barnum expects to astonish the Londoners with the greatest show on earth. Jumbo will soon be mated, as Mr. Barnum as a herd of twenty elephants.

SPECTACLES VERSUS BLINDNESS.—One-fourth of those suffering from blindness can trace their calamity to the use of common spectacles or lenses imperfectly adapted to the sight. Mr. Henry Laurance, F.S.S., Oculist Optician, personally adapts his Improved Spectacles at his residence, 3, Endsleigh-gardens Euston-square, London, daily (Saturdays excepted) ten, to four Sir Julius Benedict writes:—"I have tried the principal Opticians in London without success, but your spectacles suit me admirably. The clearness of your glasses, as compared with others, is really surprising." Dr. Bird, Chelmsford, late Surgeon-Major, W.E.M., writes:—"I could not have believed it possible that my sight could have been so much improved and relieved at my age, 82. I can now read the smallest print, although suffering from cataract on the right eye." The Rev. Mother Abbess, St. Mary's Abbey, Hendon, says:—"The spectacles supplied to myself and several members of the Convent have given great satisfaction." Similar testimonials from John Woolcott, Esq., F.R.C.S., Founder of the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone; Ven. Archdeacon Palmer, Clifton; Lieutenant-General Macmillen, Brentwood; the Rev. Joseph Hargreaves, Uxoridge-road, and hundreds of others. Mr. Laurance's Pamphlet, "Spectacles, their Use and Abuse," post free.

2/- TEA OF EXTRAORDINARY QUALITY,

As Supplied to Dukes, Earls, Barons, and the County Families of England.

THE unprecedented depression in the Tea Market now enables COOPER COOPER and CO. to offer such value in Tea as would, a few years ago, have been considered simply impossible, but is now a realised fact, for at

TWO SHILLINGS A POUND

COOPER COOPER and CO. are able to supply Tea of amazing strength and exquisite quality, while the choice kinds at Three Shilling a pound, which are coming to hand in lessening quantities year by year, COOPER COOPER and CO. have the greatest difficulty, after ransacking the markets of China and India, in procuring in sufficient quantities for their consumption. These choice and selected Teas COOPER COOPER and CO. have the honour to supply to many Foreign Princes, Potentates, Ambassadors, &c.

THE enormous success—without competitors and with no rivals—which has attended the sale of COOPER COOPER and CO.'S Teas is perhaps unparalleled in the annals of this or any other trade, and can only be accounted for by the way in which their business has been conducted, which has gained the patronage of all classes. COOPER COOPER and CO. number among their customers Princes, Dukes, Earls, Barons—in fact, a large per-centage of the entire Peerage—Church dignitaries of every grade, and ministers of all denominations, County families from every county in Great Britain, and from all classes of the community. COOPER COOPER and CO. are also shipping their Teas every day to foreign parts. Paris would appear to draw its supplies from COOPER COOPER and CO.'S Stores, and in almost every large city, and especially in the seaport towns of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America—in fact, to the very ends of the earth—COOPER COOPER and CO.'S Teas and COOPER COOPER and CO.'S name are known.

COOPER COOPER and CO. have their own Agents in China and India, and are consequently able to sell their Tea at a price which is actually under that which wholesale merchants, brokers, &c., charge to ordinary dealers. They are enabled to do this, as they have not the expense of travellers and no bad debts to provide for, their terms being strictly for nett cash before delivery. They also save an immense amount by keeping no horses and vans—many houses having from 20 to 100 horses, vans, and two men to each, to deliver, sometimes, half-a-pound of tea miles and miles away, this overwhelming expense having all to come out of the quality of the Tea.

COOPER COOPER and CO. have, in fact, no expense but indispensable rent and labour, which, in consequence of still-increasing business, amount only to a fraction on the price of the Tea they sell.

COOPER COOPER and CO. may mention that they include among the regular buyers of their Tea a great many London Tea Brokers, from the simple fact that it can be purchased cheaper and better from them than from the importers themselves.

COOPER COOPER and CO. sell their Teas for ready money only. They have thus no provision to make for bad or doubtful debts.

AND now a word about this year's crop. It is hardly satisfactory on the whole, but some of the choice crops secured by COOPER COOPER and CO. are simply delicious. COOPER COOPER and CO. are still enabled to sell the very best at Three Shillings a pound, and it is veritably a marvel of goodness—a "thing of beauty" and "a joy for ever." But the most astonishing thing of modern times is the Tea at Two Shillings a pound which COOPER COOPER and CO. are now selling. The rich and wealthy buy this Tea. Ladies drink it in their boudoirs, and at their early drums, and as one of our country patrons writes, "It is lovely."

COOPER COOPER and CO. may add that

INDIAN TEA

is becoming day by day a greater favourite among the best judges, and this year's crop has been prepared with greater care than ever. It is strong, pungent, with most agreeable flavour, and the better it is known the more it will be liked.

THE TEA IS 3s. A POUND FOR THE BEST.

COOPER COOPER and CO. charge threepence a package (of any size) for delivering their Teas at any of the Railway Stations in London, or any place within the limits of the London Parcels Delivery Co., thus putting all on an equality: those who send for their Tea, and those who require it sent.

COOPER COOPER and CO. do not pay railway carriage, but are willing to compound for the same on receiving the sum of 9d., in addition to the price of the Tea, to any Railway Station in England, on quantities of the value of £2 and upwards. Families residing in the country can thus by clubbing together, have their Tea sent almost carriage free, as well as save about 9d. a pound in the cost.

COOPER COOPER & CO.,

50, King William Street, London Bridge; 63, Bishopsgate Street Within, E.C.; 268, Regent Circus, W.; 35, Strand (near Charing Cross), W.C.; 7, Westbourne Grove, London, W.

BIRTHS.

April 2, at 53, Onslow-gardens, S.W., the wife of CHESTER CHESTON, jun., of a son.
April 3, at Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire, the wife of Lieut. EMERIC J. V. PRITCHARD, R.N., of a daughter.
April 6, at The Limes, Cirencester, the wife of the Rev. GILBERT E. BELCHER, of a daughter.
April 6, at the Grammar School, Wimborne, the wife of B. FYNES-CLINTON, of a daughter.
April 6, at Eton College, the wife of E. S. SHUCKBURGH, of a son.
April 7th, at Cheam Rectory, the wife of the Rev. C. H. RICE, of a son.
April 7, at 2, Prospect-place, Sandgate, Kent, the wife of the Rev. J. B. TYSON, of a son.
April 8, at Highbury-grove, N., the wife of the Rev. ALFRED J. P. SHEPHERD, M.A., &c., Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, of a daughter.
April 9, at 42, Grosvenor-gardens, S.W., the Hon. Mrs. FRANCIS BUXTON, of a son.
April 9, at the Forest, Walthamstow, the wife of the Rev. FREDERIC J. POOLE, M.A., of a son.
April 9, the wife of GEORGE FARWELL, of Lincoln's-inn, Barrister-at-law, of a daughter.
April 10, at Mowbray House, Ripon, the Hon. Mrs. CATHCART, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

April 5, at the parish church, Didsbury, Manchester, VICTOR TAYLOR, of St. Thomas's-square, Hackney, London, to AMY MARGARET, eldest daughter of ALFRED MORTON, of Albert Park, Didsbury.
April 8, at St. Mary's Church, West Kensington, JOSEPH COWLAND, of The Grove, Stratford, E., to CHARLOTTE, widow of the late JOHN K. CLAPHAM, formerly of Leeds, and granddaughter of the late Right Hon. George Alderman Peacock, of the city of York.
April 10, at the Priory Church, Leominster, HARRY RICHMOND, B.A., Magdalene College, Cambridge, to AUGUSTA, widow of the late Lieut.-Col. FEILDEN, of Dulas Court, Herefordshire.
April 11, at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, GEORGE BLENCH MASON, M.A., R.N., N.I. of H.M.S. *Britannia*, eldest son of the Rev. G. H. Mason, B.A., of Wickham, Hants, to MARY CHARLOTTE, only daughter of the Rev. W. J. BLEW, M.A., of Warwick-street, Pall-mall.
April 11, at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, by the Rev. Canon Money, Vicar of St. John's, Deptford, assisted by the Rev. C. H. Simpkinson, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Greenwich, EDWARD TURLE, third son of Henry Turle, Esq., of Taunton, to JESSIE ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM KIESER, M.A., Perceval House, Blackheath.
April 11th, 1882, at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Tyndall's Park, Bristol. WILLIAM HENRY KING PRICE, of Clifton, to IDA HERE FREWER, eldest daughter of Henry Frewer, M.A., Clerk in Holy Orders, one of the classical masters in the Grammar Schoo', Bristol.

DEATHS.

At Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, killed while in command on shore, in the execution of a duty to punish the natives implicated in an outrage connected with the schooner *Isabella*, CHARLES MOORE LUCKRAFT, Senior Lieutenant of H.M.S. *Cormorant*, second and beloved son of Captain Charles Maxwell Luckraft, R.N., Governor of H.M. Naval Prison, Lewes, and of Louisa, his wife. (By telegram.)
March 25, CHARLOTTE ELLEN, wife of the Rev. HARVEY EDMUND TAVERNER, Rector of Martin Hussingtree, Worcester.
March 31, at Basingstoke, suddenly he Rev. W. R. WORKMAN, M.A., late Rector of Eastrop, aged 57.
April 4, Charlotte Allen, wife of Thomas Allen, of Latchmere-road, Battersea, Surrey, aged 67 years, deeply lamented.
April 5, at Burgh Rectory, Woodbridge, SIBYLLA JANE D'AUDE, wife of the late Rev. Thos. Maude, Rector of Hasketon, aged 75.
April 5, at Clayton-hill, Sussex, in consequence of a carriage accident, JOHN ROBERT WRIGHT, Barrister-at-law of the Inner and Middle Temple, and of 66, Cornwall-gardens, Queen's-gate, and The Craigan, Ifield, Sussex, only surviving son of the late Frederick Wright, Esq., of Eridge House, Fulham, aged 39.
April 6, in London, very suddenly, MAJOR WILLIAM CAIRNS ARMSTRONG, late of the 43rd and 15th Regiments, aged 62.
April 6, at 20, Wellington-street, Strand, JOHN FRANCIS, in the 71st year of his age.
April 7, at St. Albans-place, London, the Right Hon. ARTHUR JAMES, Viscount NETTERVILLE, aged 70.
April 8, at Rockliffe Grange, Bedfordshire, Colonel Sir RICHARD THOMAS GILPIN, Bart., late M.P. for Bedfordshire, in his 82nd year.
April 9, at Naples, the Lady MARGARET HARRIET CAVENDISH SCOTT BENTINCK, eldest daughter of the fourth Duke of Portland, in her 84th year.
April 9, at 138, Holland-road, LOUISA ARRINDELL WEBBER, third daughter of the late Archdeacon Webber, of George Town, Demerara, in her 19th year.
April 10, at Wallingford, CHARLES SKINNER RAYMOND, Scholar of Lancing College, and second son of Rev. Charles A. Raymond, Rector of St. Mary's, Wallingford, aged 12.
April 11, at 43, Great Cumberland-place, London, ELIZABETH CATHERINE, wife of the Rev. RICHARDSON FUSSELL, of Amroth Castle, Pembrokeshire, and daughter of the late Robert Westley Hall Dare, Esq., M.P., of Ilford, Essex.
April 11, at Busch House, Isleworth, OLIVIA MARIA, wife of ARCHIBALD SIM MONTGOMERY, and eldest daughter of the Rev. John Henry Coward, M.A., Rector of St. Peter-le-Poor, Old Broad-street.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Week ending April 22.
Monday to Friday—New Grand Lyrical Serio-comic Spectacle, HAP. Orchestral Concerts (Conductor, Mr. August Manns). Wednesday—In addition to above, Lecture by Mr. Swan on "Lighting by Electricity." Lecture by Dr. Zerffi on "The Renaissance." Saturday—Saturday Concert.
DAILY—International Electric Exhibition. Palace Lighted Every Evening by Various Systems of Electric Light. Skating Rink. Panorama, painted by M. Philippoteaux (admission one shilling). Organ (Mr. A. J. Eyre). &c., &c.
Admission to Palace, Monday to Friday, One Shilling; Saturday, Half a Crown, or by Season Ticket.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The Palace of Amusement.—Open 12, close 11.30. Grand Attractions. Everything Free. 2.0, 5, and 8, Grand Unrivalled Variety Entertainment. A Host of Novelties. Produced on a scale of unexampled magnificence.—NOTICE.—All Extra Charges are now abolished, and the price for admission to One and All Entertainments is One Shilling.

LONDON THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA,
COVENT GARDEN.
OPENING NIGHT OF THE SEASON.
TUESDAY NEXT, April 18th, Meyerbeer's Opera, LES HUGUENOTS, concluding at the end of the third act. Valentina, Madame Fursch-Nadier; Margherita di Valois, Madame Valleria; Urbano, Madame Trevelli; Conte di San Bris, Signor de Reszke; Conte di Nevers, Signor Cotogni; Marcello, Signor Gresse; Huguenot Soldier, Signor Corsi; and Raoul di Nangis, Signor Mierzwinsky. Conductor, Signor Bevignani. The incidental divertissement will be supported by Mdlle. Reuters. Previous to the commencement of the Opera the National Anthem, "God Save the Queen," will be sung.
Doors open at 8 o'clock; the opera commences at half-past. The Box-office, under the portico of the theatre, is open from 10 till 5. Orchestra stalls, £1 5s.; side-boxes on the first tier, £3 3s.; upper boxes, £2 12s. 6d.; balcony stalls, 15s.; pit tickets, 7s.; amphitheatre stalls, 10s. 6d. and 5s.; amphitheatre, 2s. 6d.
Programmes, with full particulars, can be obtained of Mr. Edward Hall, at the Box-office, under the portico of the Theatre, where applications for boxes and stalls are to be made; also of Mr. Mitchell, Messrs. Lacon and Ollier, Mr. Bubb, Messrs. Chappell, and Mr. Ollivier, Bond-street; Messrs. Leader and Co., 62, Piccadilly; Messrs Cramer and Co., 201, Regent-street; Mr. Alfred Hays, 4, Royal Exchange-buildings, and 26, Old Bond-street; and of Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheapside.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—This Evening, at 8, A LESSON, and SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER.

ADELPHI. — This Evening, at 8, TAKEN FROM LIFE. At 7.45, MY TURN NEXT.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.45, ROMEO AND JULIET. Romeo, Mr. Henry Irving; Juliet, Miss Ellen Terry.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—This Evening, THE LIGHTS O' LONDON. To be preceded, at 7, by A PHOTOGRAPHIC FRIGHT.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.—To-night, at 7.15, THOSE GIRLS. At 8.30, THE FORTY THIEVES.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MEDUSA. At 8.30, THE SQUIRE.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—This Evening, At 7.45, THE SHADOW OF THE SWORD.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.—Every Evening, at 8, MANOLA. Preceded, at 7.15, by PARADISE VILLA.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.50, THE MARBLE ARCH. At 8.40 THE COLONEL.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.40, MANKIND.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—At 7.30, ON AN ISLAND. At 8, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This Evening, at 7.50, MOTHER-IN-LAW. Followed by VULCAN (Burlesque).

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, THE PARVENU. At 7.45, MY LITTLE GIRL.

ROYALTY THEATRE. — This Evening, at 9.15, SINBAD. At 8, NOT REGISTERED. Commencing at 7.30, with TEN MINUTES FOR REFRESHMENT.

ROYAL COMEDY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, THE MASCOTTE. At 7.30, SEEING FROU FROU.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.45, BABIL AND BIJOU.

CRITERION THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, RUTH'S ROMANCE. At 8.45, FOURTEEN DAYS.

TOOLE'S THEATRE (late Folly).—This Evening, at 7.30, OUT AT ELBOWS. At 8.30, AUNTIE: Mr. J. L. Toole. Conclude with BARDELL V. PICKWICK.

SAVOY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, the new æsthetic opera, PATIENCE. Preceded by, at 8, MOCK TURTLES.

AVENUE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MADAME FAVART.

NEW SADLER'S WELLS.—This Evening, CAST ADRIFT.

SURREY THEATRE.—THIS EVENING at 8.15, BRITISH BORN. Preceded, at 7.30, by WE ALL HAVE OUR LITTLE FAULTS.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate. — This Evening, HUMANITY.

SAVE 50 PER CENT. / "ROBINSON & CLEAVER'S prices for IRISH LINEN GOODS are fully 50 PER CENT. below those usually charged for articles of a similar description."—Civil Service Gazette.

IRISH LINEN, "Their Irish Linen Collars, Cuffs, Shirts, &c., have the merits of excellence and cheapness."—Court Circular.

COLLARS, Ladies' and Children's, 3-fold, 3s. 11d. per doz. Gents' 4 fold, 4s. 11d. to 5s. 11d. per doz.

CUFFS, For Ladies, Gentlemen, & Children, 5s. 11d. to 10s. 9d. per doz.

Best Longcloth Bodies, with 4-fold all linen fronts and cuffs, 35s. 6d. the half-doz. (to measure, 2s. extra). **& SHIRTS.**

IRISH Real Irish Linen Sheeting, 2 yards wide, 1s. 11d. per yard. Extra Heavy (a most durable article), 2½ yards wide, 3s. 3d. per yard. Roller Towelling, 18in. wide, 3½d. per yard.

Surplice Linen, 8½d. per yard. **LINENS** Linen Dusters, 3s. 3d., Glass Cloth, 4s. 6d. per dozen. Fine Linens & Linen Diaper, 10d. per yard.

Fish Napkins, 3s. 6d. per doz. Dinner Napkins, 6/6 per doz. **& DAMASKS.**

Table Cloths, 2 yds square, 3s. 11d.; 2½ yds. by 4 yds., 13s. 4d. each

CAMBRIC POCKET HANDKERCHIEFS.
Children's..... 2s. 6d. per doz.
Ladies' ..... 3s. 3d. „
Gentlemen's .. 4s. 10d. „
HEMSTITCHED.
Ladies, .. 4s. 9d. per doz.
Gent's .. 8s. 4d. „

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Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers, 3s. 6d. 6s., and 11s. 22, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

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WITHIN THE REACH OF ALL.

ELECTRICITY, it is well known, repairs waste by energising all vital functions, and thus promotes perfect health, strength, and happiness. It is therefore the most positive natural restorative extant for such cases as

Indigestion.	Loss of Voice.	Gout.
Liver Complaints.	Asthma.	Constipation.
Neuralgia.	Bronchitis.	Mental and Physical Weakness.
Sciatica.	Paralysis.	Functional Disorders.
Nervous Exhaustion.	Epilepsy.	
Writer's Cramp.	Rheumatism.	

SELF APPLICATION of this potent remedy is successfully, safely, and cheaply facilitated by the recent provements of

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SELF-ELECTRIC CHAIN BANDS are contrived, according to the ailment to be treated, as Bracelets, 5s.; Frontlets, 10s.; Necklets, 10s.; Belts, Pocket Batteries, so as to ensure their utmost convenience and efficacy.

THOUSANDS of Private Testimonials bearing dates in close succession, vouch for their efficacy in cases where other remedies have failed. See Pamphlet, "GALVANISM: NATURE'S CHIEF RESTORER OF IMPAIRED VITAL ENERGY," post free from

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GALVANISM v. INDIGESTION and SLUGGISH LIVER.

"Ardingly College, Hayward's Heath 27th December, 1881.
"Gentlemen,—During last spring and the early part of the summer I suffered much from what my medical attendant specified as indigestion and a sluggish liver. At the beginning of August I procured one of your Galvanic Chain Bands and wore it during that month and September. As this is three months ago, and none of the symptoms have returned, I believe, and have every reason to hope, that my recovery is complete and permanent. You are quite at liberty to make what use you please of my letter—common justice demands it.—I am yours truly, "(Rev.) H. THOMS.
"Messrs. J. L. Pulvermacher and Co."

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The Bank undertakes for its Customers, free of charge, the custody of Deeds, Writings, and other Securities and Valuables; the Collection of Bills of Exchange, Dividends, and Coupons; and the purchase and sale of Stocks and Shares.
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FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.
31st March, 1880.

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LATEST NEWS.

STUTTGARD, April 14.

The statement that the King of Wurtemberg had joined the Roman Catholic Church is officially declared to be without foundation. The report had for its only basis the visit of the King to Rome, and the arrangement that he should visit the Pope.

BERLIN, April 14.

The German Emperor will go to Wiesbaden on the 18th inst., and will remain four weeks. He will afterwards be present at the spring parade of the Guards, and will himself inspect them.

Prince Bismarck proposes some really important changes in the Customs tariff, which are intended, by the augmentation of duties, to further protect the industries dependent upon agriculture.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 14.

The *Messager Officiel* states that Baron Jomini, Secretary of State, has ascertained that the two murderers of General Strelnikoff—namely, Jelvakoff, a student, and Khaltourtne, a peasant—are the two men who have long been wanted in connection with the explosion at the Winter Palace.

The Governor of Padolia reports that immediately on being informed of the outbreak of anti-Jewish riots at Balta he proceeded to the scene of disturbance with the object of re-establishing order. The disturbance continued on the 11th inst. until ten o'clock in the evening, when tranquillity was restored by the military. During the night, however, disturbances were renewed, notwithstanding that military pickets had been posted in various parts of the town. Order was re-established on the following day on the arrival of reinforcements. The persons guilty of the excesses were the inhabitants of the town and peasants from the neighbourhood. A Public Prosecutor has arrived at Balta to superintend the judicial investigation. Yesterday the town was perfectly quiet. At Letitachewo, early in the evening of the 12th inst., a number of the inhabitants attacked the houses of some Jews. The military, however, succeeded in restoring order without using their arms. The ringleaders were arrested.

MONTREAL, April 13.

Lord Lorne gave a grand ball to-night. His Excellency has been presented with an address for transmission to the Queen signed by 50,000 Canadian women congratulating Her Majesty upon her escape from assassination.

TRIPOLI, April 13.

A large camp has been formed in a plain on the west side of this city, and is now occupied by a number of infantry and cavalry. A column of troops is being formed to be in readiness to march to the frontier if required. The military council, under the presidency of Mahommed Zeki Pasha, have decided to instruct the Arab irregulars in the use of the Martini rifle. The military authorities have received orders from Constantinople to make an immediate purchase of 1,500 horses for the use of the cavalry.

CAIRO, April 14.

At the Cabinet Council held yesterday it was decided to refer the Italian Government to the Porte in regard to the Assab Bay question. It was also resolved to institute a court-martial under the presidency of a Circassian general to try the officers charged with complicity in the plot to assassinate Arabi Pasha.

VIENNA, April 14.

This morning's papers dwell upon the successful result of yesterday's subscription to the new Five per Cent. Paper Rente. The Opposition journals also admit that the Minister of Finance has every reason to be satisfied on this account.

MONEY MARKET.

FRIDAY.

Consols closed for money at 101⅛ to 101⅛, and for the account at 101⅛ to 101⅛.

Yesterday being the anniversary of the birth of Princess Beatrice, the occasion was celebrated at Windsor with the customary rejoicings. In the early morning and at intervals during the day the bells of St. George's Chapel and the parish church were rung, and at noon a Royal salute of twenty-one guns was fired in the Long Walk. The usual customs were also observed in London. The drum-major doing duty with the detachment of the 1st Battalion of the Coldstream Guards, which mounted the Queen's guard at St. James's Palace, wore his state dress in honour of the occasion, and a selection of music was played in the courtyard of the palace by the band of the regiment.

The forthcoming number of the *Journal of Hellenic Studies* will contain the first instalment of Mr. Ramsay's account of his recent expedition into Phrygia, illustrated from drawings made by Mr. Arthur Blunt, the artist who was sent out by the Hellenic Society to draw whatever objects of interest might be found.

Hitherto the Hospice of the Great St. Bernard, which stands 8,200ft. above the level of the sea, has enjoyed the distinction of being the most elevated inhabited building in Europe. This honour it can now no longer claim. During the past year the city authorities of Catania, in Sicily, have caused to be erected near the summit of the great volcano, Mount Etna, an astronomical observatory which stands 2,943 mètres above the sea-level, or fully 1,000ft. higher than the Hospice of St. Bernard. The structure is nine mètres in height, and covers an area of 200 square mètres. It consists of an upper and a lower story, and is built in a circular form. In the lower story there rises a massive pillar, upon which is placed the great refracting telescope. The lower story is divided into a dining-room, kitchen, and store-rooms. In the upper story there are three bedrooms, intended for the accommodation of astronomers and tourists visiting the establishment. The roof consists of a movable cupola or dome. From the balconies of the upper story a prospect of vast extent and grandeur is presented. The spectator is able to see over half the Island of Sicily, the Island of Malta, the Lipari Isles, and the province of Calabria, on the mainland of Italy. The observatory is erected upon a small cone, which will, in the case of eruption, protect it completely from the lava-stream which always flows down on the opposite side of the volcano.—*Builder*.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between Col. Hon. Cuthbert E. Edwardes and Lady Blanche Butler, youngest daughter of the late Marquis of Ormonde.

Also between the Hon. and Rev. E. Carr-Glyn, M.A., vicar of Kensington, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, and rural dean, and Lady Mary Campbell, daughter of the Duke of Argyll.

Also between Mr. Pownall Williams, third son of the late Mr. Joshua Williams, Q.C., and Miss Beatrice Grosvenor, fourth daughter of the late Rev. F. Grosvenor, formerly rector of Dunkerton, near Bath.

A fancy ball took place at Bath on Easter Monday, and was well attended, about 800 being present. Miss Bunbury, as Cinderella, was in characteristic costume of grey, with white apron, dustpan, and brush. Miss Hatherley wore a handsome costume as Esmeralda; Miss Carleton as a Greek Slave; Miss Dickinson as Mediæval Princess, in a robe of white satin, embroidered in gold and pearls, sleeves slashed pale pink, gold girdle and bag and fan, and high conical headdress of white satin, embroidered to match the dress and veil from the back. Miss Davis wore a very elegant dress from *Patience*, with gold embroidery and sunflowers. Miss Edith Carlton in poudré costume of black and crimson roses. Miss Miller, a dress of peacock-green satin and velvet, the train covered with peacock's feathers, and dress trimmed with them; peacock aigrette and diamonds in hair. Miss Millicent Miller as Daisy Chains; Miss Blanche Miller as La Jolie Perfumeuse, &c.

On Wednesday last was solemnised, by special licence, the marriage of Mr. J. W. Barclay, M.P. for Forfarshire, with Miss Lilian Novelli, second daughter of Mr. Augustus H. Novelli, of Mimwood, Northaw, Herts, at St. Andrew's Church, Wells-street, Oxford-street. The wedding party assembled at the church between one and two o'clock, the bride arriving punctually at the latter hour, when she was received by her four bridesmaids, the bridegroom having previously arrived. The bride was attired in a dress of white brocade, the front of the skirt being trimmed with rows of narrow lace, and the long train edged with a full wide ruche of crêpe lisse, the bodice was trimmed with orange flowers, sprays of the same flowers being arranged in her hair, over which flowed a tulle veil, which was fastened with diamond stars; she carried a beautiful bouquet of the choicest white flowers. The four bridesmaids were each dressed in a different colour, one in pale blue, another in pale yellow, the third in pale pink, and the fourth in pale green, each being trimmed with full ruffles of lace and pearl fringe. All wore pearl necklaces and large white satin straw hats, trimmed with handsome shaded feathers and a cluster of flowers of the same colour as their dresses, and gloves to match; and each carried a lovely bouquet of flowers also to harmonise with the colour of their costumes. The church, with its decoration of Easter flowers, presented a very bright appearance, owing to the fresh spring toilets worn by the ladies. The service was full choral, two beautiful anthems being sung on the occasion. After the registration of the marriage, Mr. Barclay and his bride, followed by their relatives and friends, drove to Mr. Novelli's house, Hyde-park-square, for refreshments. The tables abounded with a rare display of fruit, the large bridecake being a conspicuous object on the principal table.

The marriage of Mr. Lyonel Plantagenet Tollemache, eldest son of the Hon. W. F. Tollemache, M.P., and grandson of Lord Tollemache, with Lady Sybil King, daughter of the late Earl of Kingston, was celebrated at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, on Thursday last, the 13th inst. The wedding party began to assemble shortly after eleven o'clock, the bridegroom arriving early with his best man, the Hon. Fitzroy Stewart. On the arrival of the bride at a quarter to twelve o'clock, she was received by her uncle, the Hon. F. A. J. Chichester, and six bridesmaids—namely, Miss Blanche and Miss Grace Tollemache, sisters of the bridegroom, Miss Augustus Chichester, Miss Violet Chichester, and Misses Sheelah and Morna Chichester, cousins of the bride. The bride wore a dress of white moire silk, trimmed with pearl embroidery, and Brussels lace flounces, a garniture of orange blossoms being very gracefully arranged across the front of the skirt: a wreath of orange blossoms was covered by an exquisite Brussels veil; and her ornaments were diamonds. The bridesmaids were dressed alike in costumes of ruby-coloured satin merveilleux, trimmed with brown ostrich feathers; ruby satin bonnets, relieved with a bunch of pale-coloured roses; and muffs composed of red roses in various shades. Each wore a gold bangle, with appropriate inscription, the gift of the bridegroom. The service, which was full choral, was performed by the Rev. W. R. Suffle, assisted by the Rev. R. A. Corbett, the Rev. F. Boyd, and the Rev. W. Kelley, the bride being given away by her uncle, the Hon. F. Chichester. Among the relatives and friends present on the occasion were Jane, Duchess of Marlborough, the Earl and Countess of Galloway, the Dowager Countess of Galloway and the Ladies Stewart, Lord Tollemache, Lady Emily Chichester, Hon. Randolph Stewart, Hon. Wilbraham and Mrs. Tollemache and Misses Tollemache (2), Hon. Duff Tollemache, Hon. Fredk. Tollemache, Mr. Algernon and Lady Henrietta Turnor, Lord and Lady Claud Hamilton, Lord and Lady Templemore, Lady Alan Spencer Churchill and Mr. Caulfield, Sir Walter and Lady Mary Farquhar and Misses Farquhar, Colonel and Mrs. Seymour, Mrs. and Miss Hart Dyke, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cockran, Mr. Charles and Hon. Mrs. Peel, &c. On quitting the church the wedding party and friends repaired to Eccleston-square, where the Hon. F. A. J. and Lady Emily Chichester entertained a large party at breakfast. Early in the afternoon the newly-married couple left town for Holmington Hall, Lord Tollemache's seat in Suffolk, to pass the honeymoon. The bride's travelling dress was composed of peacock-blue velvet, trimmed with coffee-coloured lace, with bonnet and muff to match. There were some handsome toilets worn by the wedding guests. The Countess of Galloway wore a velvet dress of a deep shade of violet, with a white straw bonnet, trimmed with mauve. Lady Isabel Stewart was attired in pale blue nun's cloth and satin, and white bonnet, trimmed with blue satin. A very elegant dress was of pale pink satin, with white straw bonnet, trimmed with the same satin, and relieved with a band of green in front. Another pretty dress was of ivory-white nun's cloth, trimmed plentifully with cream lace; hat to match.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A prize of £3 3s. in money will be given at the end of each quarter to the solver of the greatest number of our Double Acrostics during the thirteen weeks. Solutions must reach the office not later than the Monday week following the date of publication, and must be signed with a distinct pseudonym, of not inordinate length. Ties will be guessed off the following quarter. Solutions must be addressed ACROSTIC EDITOR, *John Bull*, 6 Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street. Alternatives allowed to the number of three: anyone sending more to a single light will not be credited. In the case of a quotation, the word intended by the author must be given, even if others should answer the sense of the light.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 7.

(TWENTY-FIFTH QUARTER.)

1. D oo P
2. E xit O
3. A cadi E
4. D istan T

NOTES.—Light 1: "Footsteps of Angels." Light 2: "The Golden Legend." Light 3: "Evangeline." Light 4: "Hymns of the Moravian Nuns."

Correct solutions have been received from Alice, Alga, Bruco, Conjecture, Cousins, Chestnut, Cymro, Culverin, Cipher, Dunstan, Dinah, Etak, Elsie, Florence, Guó de Roi, Gaffer, Hadji, Hampton Courtier, Hero, Iris, Jib, Jumbo, Ketha, Katydid, Lavecrep, Land o' Nod, Lathyra, Lance, Libys, M. A. E. B., Mac, Mrs. Mums, Mere Hazard, Noremac, Peewit, Persevere, Pegasus, Quiz, Roslyn, Roma, Sparks, Spero, Seaweed, Sappho, Sleepy, St. Michael's, Two Countesses, Tutamen, The Owl, Viz., Wylmcote, Work, Wick, X., Zanga, Zulus, and Zenobia.—57 correct, 11 incorrect; total, 68.

DUNSTAN.—The Editor does not remember what mountain you gave.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 9.

(TWENTY-FIFTH QUARTER.)

PROEM.

Or here, or there, or anywhere,
By ocean wave, in lordly tower,
Or seeking rest in distant scene,
May Heaven its choicest blessing shower
Upon our good and gracious Queen.

1.

He bit the dart and wrenched the wood away,
The point still buried in the lay.

2.

Oh! worthy sons of brave and worthy sires,
In whom the thirst for vengeance could not rest,
That ye have satisfied your stern desires
The prostrate walls of once-famed Thebes attest.

3.

Let eternal infamy pursue
The wretch to nought but his ambition true,
Who for the sake of filling at one blast
The post-horns of *all* Europe, lays her waste.

4.

In this historic region at his leisure,
Let the dear Doctor if it give him pleasure,
Restore to light full many a hidden treasure.

5.

I do not like that river—with much anxiety
I see along its wandering course too great activity—
I quite agree with Burnaby, and he agrees with me.

6.

No one, I think, would ever wish to be
Full twenty thousand leagues beneath the sea.

7.

Did *she* but live in these degenerate days,
And see what's passing in no distant climes,
Her voice 'gainst persecution loud she'd raise,
And strive to end such sad atrocious crimes.

KENMORE.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

Our correspondent, the Rev. J. E. Rudd, of Covenham St. Mary, writes:—

Avril et Mai de l'année,
Font tous seuls la destinée.

April and May are the keys of the year. The first of this month opened gloriously with the wind S.S.W., but towards the middle of the day the wind veered to the eastward, and S.E., E.S.E., and N.E. are likely to be the prevailing winds for some time. The 7th and 8th were golden days. May, which will open fair, will be a cold and critical month. About, or soon after, the 10th we shall have some very rough and stormy weather. The 2nd, 5th, 16th, 18th, 19th, 22nd, and 30th will be critical days. The temperature will be very cold during the first and last weeks of the month.

At the annual meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, held at the College on the 1st inst., the following were elected members of the Governing Body, to supply the two existing vacancies:—M. H. N. Story-Maskelyne, Esq., M.P.; the Right Hon. Lord Lyttelton. It is an interesting fact that Lord Lyttelton was once a student at the College.

"Whither Drifting?" is the suggestive title of the new serial story, from the pen of the famous authoress, Mrs. Louisa Crow, the first chapters of which will appear in the May number of the *Quiver*. As the rule is with Mrs. Crow's stories, "Whither Drifting?" is full of striking incident, and inculcates the blessedness of large-hearted Christian charity.

Messrs. George Bell and Sons have in the press a somewhat notable book. For many years Mr. Edwin W. Streeter has been engaged in collecting materials for something like an authoritative history of the world's famous diamonds. In collaboration with Mr. Joseph Hatton and Mr. A. H. Keane (a well-known Oriental scholar) he has completed a very interesting volume entitled *The Great Diamonds of the World*. In addition to the literary alliance just mentioned, Mr. Streeter has had the honour to have had the MS. of the chapter on the "Koh-i-nûr" graciously read by the Queen, and those on "The Pitt," "The Eugénie," and other stones, revised and corrected by Her Majesty the Empress Eugénie. The Ministers and Ambassadors of several European Courts have contributed valuable information, and the result will be a unique addition to the romance of history.

One might suppose that the history of Easter had been tolerably threshed out by this time, but we understand that Mr. Fenton has succeeded in collecting a considerable amount of new matter on the subject, which he has incorporated in an article which forms one of the series now being published in the *Antiquary* on the chief anniversaries of the year.

The little-understood duties and responsibilities of the newspaper sub-editor will, in the May number of *Cassell's Magazine*, be explained to the general reader by a gentleman who, we believe, has had a large experience in that capacity on a well-known northern journal. A specimen of "flimsy" will be engraved in *fac-simile* for the inspection of the uninitiated.

The second general meeting of the Hellenic Society for the current season will be held at 22, Albemarle-street, at 5 p.m. on Thursday next, when several papers of archæological interest will be read.

The promised volume of sermons preached on special occasions by the late Dean of Westminster in the Abbey will include the discourses called forth by the deaths of Lord Palmerston, Charles Dickens, Canon Kingsley, the Princess Alice, Carlyle, Lord Beaconsfield, and others. The publisher of this volume, Mr. Murray, further promises a work on James and Philip van Arteveld, by Mr. J. Hutton; a treatise by Mr. Hosack on the *Rise and Growth of the Law of Nations*, carried down to the Treaty of Utrecht; *Siberia in Asia*, by Mr. Seebohm, author of *Siberia in Europe*, recounting travels and ornithological searches on the eastern side of the Ural mountains: and a work by Canon Cook, *The Record of Our Lord's Words and certain Incidents in His Life*, as affected by the Revised Version of the synoptic Gospels.

The historian of Turkey, at present Minister of Justice and a member of the Uleam, Ahmed Jevdet Pasha, has lately given a course of lectures on Ottoman literature. Of late years the movement in this direction had slackened at Constantinople, but this course has awakened great interest in the Turkish Press.

Now that the spring season has fairly set in, boys will be covering every open space in the metropolis, and every country village green, in pursuit of their favourite games; our lanes will teem with bicycles, and the rivers will be alive with youthful boatmen. Opportunely with this re-awakened activity in healthful out-door amusements, comes the first part of Cassell's book of *Sports and Pastimes*, in which upwards of 500 games are to be fully described in a practical manner, and illustrated with nearly a thousand engravings. Young men will enthusiastically welcome such a work, and all parents will be glad of a book which will teach the youthful members of the family how to enter intelligently into every kind of game and pastime.

PILLED OF THE GUILD OF THE BLOOMING CLUB.

[This curious ballad has eluded the researches of Sir Walter Scott and other collectors of this class of literature. "The Guild of the Blooming Club," to which it refers, was a fantastic brotherhood founded in the decline of chivalry, bearing perhaps a closer analogy to a modern political organisation than a mediæval order of knighthood. Its members, who appear to have had no common bond of union, were continually at feud amongst themselves, the guild being split up into factions, assuming the most grotesque names, among which the Whig-pigs on the one side and the Rad-cads on the other, are best known to students of heraldry. The "grammarye," or magic referred to, seems to have been some kind of ceremonial sorcery connected with the ordeal of initiation, the term "pilled men," the etymology of which is uncertain, being applied to those unable to pass the ordeal.]

O, brave are the Knights of the Blooming Club
Who sit in the Mall at meat:
And O, to be Knight of the Blooming Club
Methinks it were wondrous sweet!

"O, brother Joe, of those jolly Knights
The jolliest Knight art thou;
And to call us both to their Companie
Were a brother's boon, I trow!"

"I will call ye both," quoted the Chamberlayne,
"With the help of mickle John,
But I wot ye must dree the grammarye,
That the Knights have undergone:

"If the beans be black in the box of doom
Though they be but as one in ten,
Ye shall be no Knights of the Companie,
But go home like common men."

Said the brothers, "Nay, fie of such grammarye,
For it is but an old wife's spell!
Ye skill of such oracles, thou and John,
Now see ye work them well!"

And the board was set with the boxes arow,
And the beans of doom at top:
And many a Knight as he passed thereby
'Gan smile to hear them drop.

And lo, when the Reckoners told the score,
'Twas a grievous tale I ween;
For the beans that were black in the box of doom
Were threescore and eighteen!

"Now a curse on the beans!" quoth the Chamberlayne,
And spake to his brothers then:
"Ye may get ye home to your Bromwycham,
Ye are pilled as common men!"

Then a cry went up from the Caucuses
"Fie, fie of this grammarye!
If the Blooming Club hath a Chamberlayne,
Forthwith it shall have three!

"For lo, we lack but a hundred Knights
To snap this old wife's spell:
But a hundred Knights to write their names,
And all shall yet be well!"

There be fourteen hundred Blooming Kights
Of the Blooming Club, and more:
But of all the rout who would write their name
They could reckon not five score:

Of all the Guild of the Blooming Club,
Not ninety Knights and nine,
For the most were fain of the grammarye,
And winked across their wine."

"Ye are pilled," they cried, "and pilled and pilled,
And so mote it ever be!
One Chamberlayne is more than enow,
We can never away with three."

—*The People*.

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